

THE COMPLETE
ENGLISH GARDENER :

O R,

Gardening made perfectly Easy :

CONTAINING,

Full and plain Directions for the proper Management

OF THE

FLOWER, FRUIT, and KITCHEN Gardens,
for every Month in the Year.

The whole laid down in so plain and easy a Manner,
that all who are desirous of managing a Garden,
may do it effectually, without any other Instructions
whatever.

To which is added,

The COMPLETE BEE-MASTER ; or,
Best Method of managing BEES, both for Profit and
Pleasure. Together with the whole Art of breeding
and rearing FOWLS, DUCKS, GEESE, TURKIES,
PIGEONS, and RABBETS.

Likewise Plain Instructions for destroying Vermin,
particulary such as infest Houses, Gardens, Dai-
ries, Barns, Bees, Poultry, Rules to judge of the
Weather, and several other Articles equally use-
ful, &c. &c.

By S A M U E L C O O K E, Gardener,

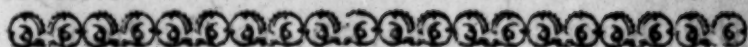
At Overton in Wiltshire ;

Who has practised Gardening, thro' all its branches,
in many counties, upwards of Forty Years.

Here learn to cultivate the PLANT for use ;
Raise the gay FLOWER, and flavour'd FRUIT produce ;
With skill to manage the industrious BEE ;
And while you profit, pleasing wonders see.
You may instructed here, if you take heed ;
Fowls, ducks, geese, turkies, pigeons, rabbits bread ;
Your table with delicious foods supply,
And clear your house of vermin by the by.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. C O O K E, at *Shakespear's-Head*, in
Pater-noster-Row. [Price 1s. 6d.]



INTRODUCTION.

THE Art of Gardening may be deemed the most useful and entertaining of all others, as it expands the variegated beauties of nature, and administers the most wholesome food to the body.—It has been the study and delight of the greatest men in all ages, as well as employed the ablest pens : we need, therefore, no other apology for presenting the world with this compendious system, than the utility of attempting to abridge and arrange the whole in such a manner, as to assist the understanding and practice of the reader.

In short, it has been our care faithfully to select the produce and instructions relative to the manures of each month in the year, as the most approved method of assisting the memory, without perplexing the mind.

Thus


Thus we hope to exhibit a pleasing view of the product of every month in the vegetable creation, to the honour of the universal parents of nature, and benefit of mankind in general, many of whom may be thereby prompted to co-operate with a wise providence, in promoting his wise and salutary designs.

To render our undertaking still more extensively useful, we have annexed, *A prescription for the destruction of every species of vermin that infest fruits, plants, &c.* as also, *A Concise Treatise on the management of Bees*; and, *Directions for the breeding and rearing of Poultry.*

Likewise certain Rules to judge of the Weather: grounded on fifty years experience and observations, by an ancient Shepherd on the South Downs, Sussex.



THE
Complete *English* GARDENER :
O R,
Gardener's Monthly Chronicle.

S the bounties of nature cannot be more beautifully displayed than in the vegetable creation, and as the utility of gardening amply compensates for all our labour; we have in this little treatise laid down in chronological order the manner of conducting, not only the gentleman, who exercises it for his amusement, but likewise the industrious gardener, who follows it as a profession. In order to effect which we begin, first, with the month of

J A N U A R Y.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

YOUR ground must be thrown up in ridges that it may be properly sweetened for the reception of spring crops. Near walls, hedges, or pales, you must sow carrot, radish, lettuce, and small sallading.

Hot beds must be prepared for sowing of melon seed and cucumbers : likewise for asparagus, which must be done at two different times, leaving about three weeks between each.

Mustard, cressies, rape, radish, and turnep seeds, must be sown on beds covered with mats, over arches made with hoops. If the weather should be severe, you must cover the mats with straw.

When the weather is open, and the ground not too moist, you must earth up your cellery in order to blanch it. If it should be frosty, cover the ridges with long litter, or tanner's bark.

Windfor, Sandwich, and Token beans, should be sown about the middle of this month some mushroom beds must be carefully covered with long, fresh straw.

Transplant near the end of this month some cabbage plants of the sugar-loaf kind ; but previous to this the ground must be sown with spinnach. Take off all decayed leaves from your cauliflower plants under frames, and if the weather is temperate, give them as much air as possible.

If the severity of the weather should render your former labour ineffectual, repeat your planting, not forgetting to take particular care of the necessary defence.

Peas and beans should be now planted in order to succeed those in November and December. Sow partly in drills ; likewise chervil about the end of this month.

Work relative to the Fruit Garden.

The roots of all new planted trees must be covered with mulch, to keep off the severity of the

the frost. Fig-trees which are placed against walls must be covered with mats or reeds, first taking off those which were left on the branches in Autumn. Cut the useless branches of your fruit trees close to the stem. Prune your vines, dwarf trees, and any hardy sort of fruit.

If the succeeding month should produce moist weather, clear your fruit trees from moss, and prepare for planting. Begin now to forward your early fruits, by placing dung or fire under your forcing frames. Prepare your decayed espaliers, and place them regularly at proper distances.

If the weather be mild, take grafts from early fruits, such as cherries, plums, apples, pears, &c. and lay them in the earth as near as you can to a dry wall. If severe weather cover them with litter or straw. If they are to be removed, cover the ends with clay, and fasten them together with a band made of straw.

Work relative to the Flower Garden.

In frosty weather the beds of ranunculuses, anemones, hyacinths, and other valuable flowers should be covered, with some light covering, such as mats or peas-haulm. When they rise above the ground, arch the bed over with hoops, covered with mats or cloths. If the weather be mild, you may uncover them. Turn over your composition of earth for future sowing pretty often, that the frost may mellow them.

If the season be mild, towards the end of this month, take off all decayed leaves from your auriculas ; take some of the earth out of the pots, but be very careful not to disturb the roots ; then fill them again, but let none of the earth fall upon the leaves.

If

If the weather be frosty, cover them with mats or cloths ; but if it be temperate let them have the benefit of the air, and the refreshment of moderate rain.

You must defend your tender flowers from heavy rains, snow, and hard frost ; and your plants must be properly guarded from the destruction of vermin.

Management of the different Manures in the course of this month.

The most material thing in the kitchen garden is the hot bed, which must be so placed as to avoid the power of the north and south-west winds, and to receive the cherishing heat of the sun. When you have marked out its extent, drive stakes into the ground all round it, about a foot distance between each ; cover the stakes with a hay-band, and then fill it with wet litter, or new horse-dung, taking care to form the whole of an equal substance, by treading it down various times during its being filled.

When you have thus prepared your bed, adjust your wooden frames in such manner as to admit the mold at top, and let them be placed on a slope. Leave space enough for the earth, and be careful not to confine the shooting of your plants.

Take some earth from an old hot-bed, and mix with it ; after which cover it with straw or mats, supported with short props, and let it continue till it be warm, but not hot. This you may know by putting a stick into the ground, which when taken out will feel warm to your hand ; but if the heat should lose its strength, place by the side of the bed a quantity of fresh dung.

After

After your plants have sprung up in the hot-bed, let them have progressively the refreshment of the air and sun. When strong enough transplant them into a bed not so hot as the former; frequently apply moderate watering, and secure them from the violent heat of the sun. A little before sun set cover the glasses with mats and litter to prevent their being destroyed by blasts or sharp winds.

The hot-bed formed for asparagus must be a spot of ground adapted on purpose, well dug and dunged. Form your lines about seven or eight inches asunder, and when they are a year old, plant the roots six or seven inches apart. In this situation they must remain two years, taking care to preserve them from weeds, before they will be fit for the hot-bed, which must be made strong, surrounded with bands of straw, and covered with earth at least six inches deep. Your roots being thus planted as near as possible, cover the buds of the plants two inches thick with earth. Let them continue in this manner five or six days, after which put on the frames and glasses, and cover them at least three inches thick with fresh earth. On the buds first shooting, give them as much air as the mildness of the weather will admit. If temperate weather continues they will increase daily for about a month; but if cold weather should ensue, you must apply fresh dung to the glasses every night; the good effects of which will be soon discovered.

Strawberries may be produced early if placed on a moderate hot-bed; as may likewise sallad in a very short time by means of powdered lime laid on each side with a track of dung in the middle; the whole must be covered over with good rich

rich mould. Radishes are likewise raised on the hot bed, but must be properly surrounded with mould that they may take deep roots before the dung reaches them ; by this means they may be produced almost any time in year. The hot-spur, charlton master, and other peas must be sown in drills about three feet asunder, that you may have the opportunity of going between them, and the lines must run from north to south. After they have risen near six inches high, put earth on both sides the lines about four inches deep, raising on the last sides of them a kind of bank to screen them from piercing winds.

Your vines must be pruned this month, paying proper respect to the strength of the shoots : you must cut off all useless branches, leaving the short jointed and strongest nine inches, or more according to the strength of the wood ; but if they be old, take off the stem and supply its place with a young one. If you intend to circulate the vine, the last year's branches must be shortened in proportion to the body.

In order to raise anemonies you must form your earth on a rich sand well sifted, and of a pliable texture, for they seldom blow in a hard soil. Put a thin layer of willow earth at their first transplanting, and it will further their growth amazingly.

The ranunculus is managed much in the same manner as the anemony, only be careful to preserve them from the severity of sharp winds and frost, because if the leaves should be once nipped they will soon decay, and the roots follow. They must be planted in rows about four inches asunder.

The sallads which are produced this month consist of mint, cresses, radishes, young onions, cellery.

cellery and endive ; young lettuce, boorcole, favoy cabbage, sprouts of Dutch and Battersea cabbages, red and Russian cabbages, and various soup herbs, together with the tops of bromet and chervil.

Although this season is generally attended with severe weather, yet we have some fruit, especially the Bugi pear, which, when kept so long, is esteemed delicious. There are likewise the golden ruffet, leather-coat ruffetin, winter pearmain, golden pippin, whitmill pippin, nonpareil, and monstrous benette. Nuts, almonds, medlars, and services. Aloes begin to throw out their flower-stems, and oranges to blossom. If the weather is mild, and you have neglected to sow the seeds of auriculas, and polyanthus in the months of October and November, you may sow them at this time. The winter aconite may be transplanted in flower.

The flowers that grow in this month are, the single anemonies, winter ciclamens, acacia, snowdrops, primroses, winter aconite, coule blue violet, dwarf tithymal, and yellow ficoides.

F E B R U A R Y.

The Kitchen Garden.

DIG and prepare you ground for the sowing of carrots, parsneps, radishes, spinach, beets, beans, peas, parsley and cabbage lettuce. Sow corn salled, large rooted parsley, summer and winter favory, marygolds, and other hardy plants, but place them in separate beds or spots. Moderate

rate hot beds must be prepared for sowing cauliflower seeds for Summer plants ; these seldom succeed unless the soil be moist. If the shoots are forward enough you may slip some old artichoke-stocks about the end of the month. Plant peas and beans every fortnight or three weeks, particularly the large sort of each. Transplant the melon and cucumber plants into new beds, but not till the violent heat of the bed is abated. Cover the mushroom beds with frames, and place them under thatched sheds to preserve them from heavy rain and snow. Kidney beans for an early crop must be planted on a moderate hot-bed, and when the weather is mild, give them as much air as you can.

Plant imperial, Silesia and cos lettuces at the close of the month, if the weather should be temperate. The seed of asparagus must be sown in a good bed, in order to raise plants for the next year. Potatoes and Jerusalem artichokes must be planted in dry ground trenched deep ; as also garlic, shallots, and rocambole. Plant hops, dig the ground, and prune the old roots, but be careful not to injure the buds of the plants. Transplant young cabbages for a crop.

In the Fruit Garden.

In mild weather let your fig-trees be open to the air, but when frosty, let them be again covered. Prune such trees as have been neglected, and nail them to the wall. Where they are wanting transplant all sorts of fruit trees, first breaking the clods that the ground may be soft. After rain, clear of the moss from the trees, and be careful of bulfinches, who will destroy the hopes of your labour : if the end of the month
should

shoul
plum
D
roots
the
plan
and
refre
hot-
forci
weat

T
ther
pots
let
war
pots
they
fun.
as
nigh
ran
be
such
pion

beg
in
tow
pin
Ca
fix

should produce mild weather, graft cherries, plums, pears, and other hardy fruit.

Draw off all superfluous moisture from the roots of trees, cut and lay quicksets, and earth up the roots of uncovered fruit-trees. Make new plantations of strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, and currants, if omitted in Autumn; likewise refresh with water, and air, the strawberries in hot-beds. Be careful of your early fruits or forcing frames, and give them air or heat as the weather will admit.

In the Flower Garden.

Towards the end of this month, if the weather be temperate, plant your carnations in the pots you intend them to flower; in bad weather let them be covered over with mats and kept warm. Sow auricula and polyanthus seeds in pots of good rich mould, and place them where they may receive the mild heat of the morning sun. Keep your flower-beds clear of all weeds, as they will detriment their growth. On frosty nights cover your beds of tulips, anemories, and ranunculuses with mats. The flowering trees to be transplanted this month are jessamine, honeysuckle, lilacs, roses, laburnum, bladder and scorpion senas, spireas and altheas.

The ever-greens must not be removed till the beginning of April. Carnations that were planted in Autumn must have fresh earth put to them; and toward the end of the month sow sweet williams, pinks, primrose trees, larkspurs, hollyhocks, and Canterbury-bells. On the side of a shady bank fix your plantations for the lilly of the valley.

All foreign seeds, especially the annual kind,
C that

that come from warm climates, must be sown in hot beds ; likewise orange and lemon kernels ; the kernels must be put in the ground as soon as taken out of the fruit. Clean the different divisions of your wilderness, turn and roll your gravel walks and lawns, and keep them clear of moss. Head orange trees, give them fresh mould, and sprinkle them with water that have been steeped in sheep's dung two or three days, but be careful it only goes on the root ; if it should fall on the leaves, they will be infallibly destroyed. The double larkspur and China starworts may be now sown in dry borders on a moderate hot bed, giving them proper air every day.

The flowers that grow this month are Persian iris, crocuses, silver alaternus, narcissus dens caninus, hepatica, yellow gilliflowers, primroses and anemones, mezerion tree, fruit-bearing almond, colutea, and double pilewort.

Instructions for Grafting.

In this part of gardening there are four^d distinct methods, viz. Whip-grafting, grafting in the cleft, in the bark, and by approach ; the first of which is practised on the pear, cherry, and plum.

The method to be used with stocks is as follows : when you have cut the stock and sloped it (if you put but one scyon in) cleave it with a pruning knife about two inches deep, and inject a wedge to keep it open till the scyon is already to tie and clay it, first covering the chink with moss. The side of the wedge in the scyon, which is to be next the wood, must be cut thinner.

When you graft in the bark, which is generally

rally done on apples, you must cut the head of the stock sloping, flitting only the bark a little above an inch on the south west side, and loosen the bark at the top of the slit with your knife ; after which, by a smooth instrument of hard wood, or ivory cut sloping as the scyon, make room for it by thrusting it down between the bark and the wood where it was slit. When this is done, first using your opening instrument, take your scyon and put it into the stock, thrusting the top of the slope as low as the top surface of the stock. The bark on each side the scyon must be so ordered as to fall close to the stock, after which it must be covered over with clay.

The method of whip-grafting, when the stock and scyon are nearly of a thickness, is performed thus. Let them be both sloped alike at least a full inch ; as soon as they will lie true, tie one upon the other ; clay and bind the place, or make a slit in the bare place of the stock, commencing near the top of the slope, flitting a little way, and in the sloped face of the scyon doing the like, beginning at the same distance from the lower end, carrying it upwards ; when that is done, join them by thrusting the one slice into the other till they exactly cover, then put clay, &c.

The various tools necessary for grafting are a strong knife with a thick back, a neat hand-saw, a sharp pen knife to cut the grafts, a grafting chissel, a small mallet ; woolen yarn, or brass strings ; and clay intermixed with horse-dung.

The method of grafting by approach, or in arching, is performed where a stock grows so near another tree, the fruit of which you would increase, that it may be joined with a branch of

that tree, by cutting the sides about three inches long, and fitting them in such manner that the passages of the sap may meet; in this situation let them be clayed and bound. Take off the head of the stock, when they are well cemented, about four inches above the binding; and in the next month cut off the stub that was left of the stock, and the scyon underneath; close the place which is grafted, that the stock only may subsist.

Instructions for pruning Apricots.

Nail the branches, which shoot forth in the first summer, horizontally; and if you have plenty, take off those which sprout forward.

The next summer proceed in the same manner, rubbing away all foreright shoots, and nailing the other as horizontally as possible on the wall. About a fortnight after Michaelmas prune the tree again as before.

The third year do the same, and be particularly careful not to hurt the spurs which rise from the wood of the preceding year. Shorten the branches in winter pruning, so as to supply fresh wood where wanting, and cut off all luxuriant branches.

In pruning of peaches, you must be careful to keep them constantly supplied with bearing wood. Take off all weakly shoots, and nail the others to the wall, fixing them at such distance that the leaves may have room to spread without shading the branches too much; these must be also nailed sloping or horizontally.

When your fruit is as big as a small nut, thin them about the distance of four or five inches, by which means they will much increase in their growth. The

The Nectarine is in all respects to be managed as the peach ; and other stony fruit in the same manner as these, only requiring less care, as they are hardier in their nature.

There are two things essentially necessary to be observed in pruning the before mentioned fruits. First to furnish every part of a tree with bearing wood ; and secondly, not to lay the branches too close together.

Culture of Flowers and Plants.

For the auricula, a box of oak or deal must be prepared about four feet long, two feet wide, and six inches deep, with holes in the bottom about six inches asunder ; lay cinders of sea coals about two inches thick in the box, cover them over till the box is full with earth taken out of hollow willow trees.

The seeds must be sown on the top, without any earth put over them ; they must be pressed with a flat board into the mould a little below the edge of the box, to prevent the light seeds from floating over the brim in watering.

The box must be placed, from the time of sowing till the beginning of April, in some place where they may receive the heat of the sun ; after that they must be removed to some place that is shady.

If the seedlings fail the first year, they will come up the second, and may be transplanted in July or August.

When you have planted them in beds of light, well sifted mould, about four inches from each other, they must be placed so as to receive the heat of the morning sun.

In April following they will shew themselves, when they must be transplanted into pots of soil, composed of an equal quantity of rotten dung. Be careful to preserve them from the rain, as it will much detriment their colour.

The polyanthus requires very little culture, and may be annually produced from seeds. If the weather is mild, you may sow them the latter end of this month, but it must be in a good, rich soil, under a wall or hedge.

If any particular sort is wanted, they must be taken from a slip, as the seed seldom produces the same kind. When they are out in five or six leaves, place them in shady borders, where they are intended to blow. In order to preserve their beauty, you must transplant them often.

The larkspur may be propagated by letting the seeds of the flowers drop, which will come up the next Spring. Plant them in an open place, and shift them often.

The hollyhock is raised from seeds sown this month on a bed of good earth, and must be planted near walls or hedges. In October they will be fit to transplant.

Of sweet williams there are two kinds, the single and double. The first are raised by sowing the seed in light-earth, and will be fit to transplant about Michaelmas.

The latter are raised by layers, much in the same manner as carnations.

Roses are all produced by layers or suckers, which may be either planted now or in Autumn; if they are planted this month, be careful they are properly watered.

Pomegranates are raised by laying down the young shoots, either this month or the next, and may

may be transplanted, either in the Spring or at Autumn. Let them be put into pots, or against a south wall, that the fruit may have opportunity to ripen.

The luburnum is raised by sowing the seeds on a bed of fresh light earth, sitting mould over them about the depth of half an inch. They will appear in about thirty days. Two years after coming up they must be transplanted. An open place is as beneficial to their growth as under the shade of trees.

The althea, or Chinese rose, is best propagated in a light, rich soil. It is a green-house plant, and is raised in a hot-bed, sowing the seeds this month, or in March.

Of lilacs there are three sorts, the white the deep purple, and the yellow blotched; they are raised by suckers, which if taken off in October, you may plant in the nursery, and in four years after they will be fit to transplant. They will thrive in almost any soil that is dry, sometimes digging up the earth round the root.

The philirea, which is a beautiful plant, may be sown this month on open beds of good mould; they make fine ornamental hedges, and if properly supported with rails or stakes will grow very quick.

Of laurus-tinus there are two different sorts, the ordinary and the Portuguese, both of which are produced from the seed sown as soon as they are ripe, in good ground, or of suckers and layers. Though often trainted as a headed plant, yet it is best if planted in a wilderness or against a wall. This, like all foreign plants, is inclined to blossom about Spring in its own climate,
which

which is our Autumn, and therefore this month is the proper time for pruning it.

The laurel-tree is propagated either by seed or berries, as soon as they are ripe. Towards the end of the month you may transplant them.

The yew-tree is best cultivated in a light, barren soil; the leaves are pliable to any form; the most common are, conic or pyramidal. About the end of two years you may set them in the nursery, and place them near a foot asunder in April. Let rotten straw be put about their roots.

The most beautiful of ever greens is the holly. When the berries of this plant are ripe, they must be gathered, and after having laid some time to sweeten, they must be put in sand or earth, after which they may be sown in the nursery beds.

The striped holly, which only has a place in gardens, cannot be pruned into those nice figures which most other trees admit of, and are therefore converted into a ball, a pyramid, or headed.

The bay-tree is propagated much in the same manner as the holly. If moist weather should ensue, they will come up in about six weeks; you must shelter them the three first Winters, after which they must be transplanted. Of this kind there is one with variegated leaves, which, if discoloured by the frost, will shoot afresh, if you cut off the top branch in the Spring.

Directions for the manures of this month.

The beds for raising mushrooms must be formed in the following manner. Dig a trench five or six inches deep, lay in it either the dung of horses,

horse
from
the
Wh
thre
earth
get
the
mou
In
mat
with
the
V
a w
and
gin
the
the
Bat
kep
for
for
bag
lat
fov
po
ful
do
W
th
pl
pr

horses, mules, or asses, ridgeways; or dung from a mill where the horses tread; this must be the last covering before the earth is laid on. When the bed is compleated, which must be three or four feet high, cover the dung with fresh earth about two or three inches thick; after this get some dry mushroom earth, and strew it over the bed on the last covering of dung before the mould is laid on.

In severe weather you must put hoops and mats over it, and the whole bed must be covered with dry litter or straw, to screen it as well from the Summer's sun as Winter's frost.

When the bed is thus prepared, twice or thrice a week you must water the covering of straw, and in about two months the mushrooms will begin to appear, at which time they must be cut as they spring up.

The different kinds of cabbages are the Dutch, the Savoy, the Russia, the sugar-loaf, and the Battersea. They may be produced in any soil, if kept well watered. The Savoy cabbages are used for Winter, and towards the Spring they shoot forth sprouts which are even preferable to the cabbages themselves.

A light ground mixed with sand is best calculated for carrots. Dry weather is the best to sow them. Keep them as clear from weeds as possible after the first houghing, till they are full grown; then take them up, and what you don't use for the present, lay in sand for the Winter.

Turneps will grow in any soil, though they thrive best in a sandy, loomy ground; when the plants begin to leaf, they must be houghed at a proper distance from each other.

Parsneps

Parsneps thrive best in a rich soil, and are to be treated much in the same manner as carrots; only a greater division must be left between them.

The manner of cultivating ground for strawberries is as follows. Take a quantity of horse-dung and coal-ashes well mixed, lay it upon the land, and then dig or trench it; after this borders must be made three feet high, and slips planted thereon from eight to eighteen inches apart, according to the sorts.

There are five kinds of strawberries, the Chili, the hautboy, the scarlet, and the red and white wood-strawberries. The Chili strawberry, being the largest of all, should be set two feet asunder.

Of raspberries there are two sorts, the white and the red, the former of which is most valuable. They thrive in much the same ground as strawberries, and are propagated by slips taken from the roots about the end of this month, or the beginning of March.

They must be planted in single rows about a foot asunder; between each row must be a space of three feet, leaving the heads when planted, two feet high. The Muscovy clustered raspberries will very soon ripen, if planted against a wall, betwixt the trees, when there is a vacancy.

You must be careful to keep them clear of weeds in the Spring, and prune the tops of the strongest shoots of the last year, leaving them about three feet high, and cut away all branches that are dead and weak. This, like the strawberry, will not have its true crop till the third Summer after it is planted.

Gooseberries are produced either by seeds, suckers, or cuttings; the seeds may be sown as soon

soon as ripe, and the following Spring they will come up. The suckers are to be taken from the roots of old trees, when their leaves are fallen in open weather, and transplanted in nurseries. If the cuttings are planted in September and October, they will take root.

Currants thrive in much the same soil as the gooseberry, and are generally planted against walls, that the fruit may grow larger: but the standards produce the sweetest fruit.

Those who are curious may preserve the fruit till August or September, by tying up the bushes in mats when they are just ripe. The largest fruit being always found on the youngest branches, both of the gooseberry and currant; the tree should be kept from old wood, never leaving any shoots beyond the growth of three years.

Among the various things produced this month are, sallad-herbs, water-creffes, and blanch'd dandelion. If January's frost has not prevented it, cucumbers will produce fruit towards the close of the month, as will likewise kidney-beans, if sown at the same time. There are also cabbages, sprouts, white-beet, turneps, parsneps, potatoes, skerrets, and scorzonera; likewise char-dones and young carrots. Asparagus is also much improved in flavour.

We have now many kinds of pears and apples. Likewise nuts, almonds, and medlars. And there are, even at this time, cherries and green apricots. The oranges in the green-house being now to shoot forth their blossoms.

M A R C H.

M A R C H.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

IF the heat of your cucumber and melon beds is declined, you must renew it by putting new horse-dung round the sides; give them air in the day, and cover the glasses with mats every night. Cabbages, favoys, and red cabbages must be now sown for Winter use. Plant out your cauliflower plants for the general crop; and if the weather is mild let them have air.

Sow radishes, spinach, and sallad herbs every week. Peas and beans every fortnight.

Cellery must be now sown to succeed that in the last month. Slip and plant mint, tansey, tarragon, penny-royal, chamomile, balm, favy, sage, rosemary, hyssop, lavender, wormwood, southernwood, thyme, and most plants that are aromatic.

Lettuce plants, which have stood the Winter in warm borders, must now be planted in a more open exposure. Silesia, cos, and imperial lettuces must be sown in an open spot of ground, to succeed those in February.

About the middle of this month dress and rake your beds of asparagus, and in April the buds will appear. You may now make new plantations of asparagus, in the natural ground prepared for that purpose.

Dress your artichoaks, leaving only two or three of the best situated and clearest plants upon each root to bear; slip up the rest clean off, and plant

plant
part o

Ne
purflan

rigold

In for

rape,

endive

to seed

Sow

Divid

planta

Yo

and k

bloss

Slip a

over r

Th

the i

plants

water

destro

Your

the e

It

fruit-

to fir

necta

form

Su

have

begin

to cu

plant the best of them to produce heads, the latter part of the year.

Near the end of the month sow on hot-beds, purslane, nasturtium, French and African marigolds; likewise marygolds in the natural earth. In some warm place sow young sallads, likewise rape, sorrel, finnochia and spinach. Burnet and endive must be sown very thin to prevent running to seed.

Sow leeks, chervil, fennel, beet, and dill. Divide the roots of tarragon, and make young plantations of chives.

You must now dress up your strawberry beds, and keep them clear of runners till the plants blossom; when necessary, let them be watered. Slip and set sage, &c. if the soil is clayey, or if over moist, mix ashes to bind it.

The gardener must be careful this month that the inclemency of the weather don't injure his plants and trees: all young planted herbs must be watered every morning. You must be diligent in destroying the weeds before they run to seed. Your gardens ought to be compleatly cropped by the end of this month.

In the Fruit Garden.

It is now time to make an end of planting fruit-trees, and to fill up all vacant spaces; also to finish the pruning of apricots, peaches and nectarines, which are to be done agreeable to our former directions.

Such peaches, plums, pears, and cherries as have had one year's growth, should be pruned the beginning of this month. Neither is it too late to cut off the heads of new planted trees against

D

a wall,

a wall, and to reduce them to five or six buds, Prune fix-trees, and what great wood can be spared must be cut close off to the stem.

Graft apples and cherries; the first take best on crab stocks, and the last on black cherry; but the most curious method is by inoculation.

The heads of those stocks which were inoculated last Summer, must be cut off two inches above the bud stopeways, beginning the slope opposite to the bud; and the dead wood, by some called the cock-spur, must be cut clean off the following year in March, that the wound may be healed, and the stock and scyon the better incorporate.

Layers of the vine and fig must now be laid, and horizontal shelters erected over some of the earliest blossoms of fruit-trees to secure them from perpendicular dews and severe frosts.

Sow poppies, the venus's looking-glass, rose-campion, valerian, foxglove, acanthus, and such like other annuals, as you could not venture to sow in February. Likewise the seeds of the various kinds of stock gilly-flowers, particularly the ten-weeks. Sow a few every fortnight in the common earth, and divide or slip all kinds of fibrous-rooted plants, not in flowering, such as the gentianella, cardinal-flower, double white rocket, scarlet lychnis, rose-campions, double wall-flowers, perennial sun-flowers, asters, monk-hoods, sweet williams, hollyhocks, &c.

Plant tube-roses in pots of fresh earth, giving them a gentle warmth, but no water till they have risen out of the earth. Your tulips must be sheltered from blights, which may be done by covering them with mats or canvas.

Sow

Sow
and
have
they
will
and
mend
all
ful
layer
were

Sl
work
trans
Plan
graft
mon
pine
the

T
vine
mas
by
fru
tati
by
the
the
roo
wit
low
wil
ma
gre
or

Sow the seeds of the *campanula pyramidalis*, and take off slips from the roots; let your pots have fresh air, and place them in some pit, where they may receive the warmth of the sun, which will much increase their growth. Your shelves and places of shelter for the *auricula* must be mended and repaired; they must be defended on all sides, except the east, from the sun, and be careful that no rain comes to them. Your carnation layers must be transplanted for blowing, if they were not planted the latter end of the year.

Slip and set box for edgings, or in figured works: sow the seeds of juniper and fir, and transplant the yew, ever-greens, philirea and holly. Plant and make layers of the passion tree, and graft the Spanish white jessamine upon the common white English sort. Move your ananas or pine apples out of the stove in the bark beds, that the fruit may be forwarded.

This month and the next make layers of the vine, which will be fit to transplant the Michaelmas following; this tree is also propagated either by laying down the young branches as soon as the fruit is gathered, or at that time making plantations of cuttings. It may be likewise raised by drawing a young branch through the hole at the bottom of a garden pot about Christmas, and then filling the pot with earth; they will take root, and may be cut from the mother plant with fruit growing on them the Michaelmas following. Those which are thus raised in pots will preserve their fruit good almost till Christmas, if they are sheltered from the weather in a green house, or some such place.

Figs are propagated either from seeds, suckers, or layers: the suckers are separated from the old

roots the beginning of March, and are to be then transplanted, without cutting any of their tops. The layers are managed much like the vine, and if the seeds are sown in rubbish or such like soil about March, they will readily come up. It delights in the same soil with the vine, and may be planted in standards, or against walls. Observations have been made that the standard fig-trees bear fruit in greater abundance and much better than those planted against walls, because, as they are endangered by pruning, so they thrive not in confinement.

This tree is different in the manner of pruning from any other ; for as the method is to take away the small branches in other trees, in this it is to be avoided, because the fig puts forth its fruit at the extremities of the last year's shoots. You must cut off some of the weak smaller shoots, which do not promise to bear, but be careful you do it close to the great wood. Take away all the great wood to avoid confusion, and the branches of the tree must not be permitted to grow too high, because it will prevent their being full ; therefore the new thick branches must be shortened yearly to a foot, or thereabouts ; you must break off the bud at the end of the branches in Spring, that instead of a single branch it may have two, which will cause them the earlier to shoot out figs. Whatever you cut from the fig must be as close to the great wood or roots as you can ; and you may cut down a whole tree to the roots, to recover it from a sickly state, if the winter has been unkind. It puts forth suckers, which must be kept down, in great abundance.

When

Wh
cut on
the S
ripen.

Nov
tance
large
inches
keep
the ti
are co
wall o

Mi
propa
Spring
more
itself
and p
high
obler
atten

T
mon
time
wher
edgi

S
but
the
ning
afur
R
and
plan
whi
lue

When your figs have shot six or seven inches, cut or stop the shoots, and continue so to do all the Summer, by which two crops in a year will ripen.

Now is the time to plant beans, leaving a distance of three feet betwixt the rows, and the large sort of peas four feet. Set them about five inches apart in a stiff soil, without any manure: keep them clear of weeds, and water them about the time of their blossom. Beans in the Winter are commonly sown in single lines, under a south wall or hedge.

Mint and balm will grow any where, and are propagated by parting their roots any time in the Spring, as well as by sowing. The mint is more generally cultivated than the other, being of itself a good salad, of use in soups and sauces, and proper for distilling. When 'tis about a foot high you may cut it in bunches for Winter use, observing to dry it in the shade; which should be attended to as a general rule for others herbs.

Thyme is raised either by seeds sown in this month or April, or from slips planted at the same time: there are several sorts of this herb, one whereof has variegated leaves, and is proper for edgings.

Sage is likewise propagated from seeds or slips, but most commonly from the latter, taken from the roots at the end of this month, or the beginning of April, and planted in light earth a foot asunder.

Rue is a plant which delights in shady places, and is multiplied by slips set in a light soil: this plant has been thought to prevent the plague, for which, in times of pestilence, it was much valued.

Penny-royal and camomile are propagated from slips planted in March or April; they grow best in a stiff soil, and should be fixed in a shady place. Fennel, dill, parsley, &c. are raised from seeds sown in the natural ground this month.

There are two sorts of marjoram; that which is called Winter sweet marjoram will last some years; the other sown annually on hot beds is not so durable. The first is increased by planting the slips in moist ground about March or April.

Tansy is increased by parting the roots in the Spring, and is a plant which, for its valuable qualities, should be always kept dry in the Winter. It is extremely useful for people who are afflicted with the gout in the stomach. That disorder has been removed by boiling half a handful of it in a pint of strong white wine, and drinking it hot.

The seed of cellery may be sown this month and the next in such part of the garden as is open to the air. It must be planted about six weeks after it comes up, in beds, allowing six inches distance between the plants: they must remain there till the middle of June, when some of the first sowing will be fit to plant in trenches for blanching. A light rich soil is best, and the trenches must be cut eight or ten inches wide, and of the same depth, in which the plants are to be put as soon as made, after having pruned off their tops and roots; they are to stand at five inches distance, and as they increase in growth, are to be earthed up to within four or five inches of their tops.

Endive loves a light rich soil, and though it may be sown in this month, yet it is better to leave it till the next. When it has been come

up

up about six weeks, plant it in beds, as directed for cellery, and, about the middle of July, plant it in rows about six inches apart. As soon as it is well grown you may tie up some of it to whiten, which work should be continued every fortnight.

Purslane is a very cooling herb, and admired by some in Summer sallads. If it is sown this month it must be covered with glasses; if not till the next, the heat of the sun will be sufficient. Sorrel is sown in rows or drills, like other sallading.

Spinage, in March, April, and May, is to be sown in several parcels of ground at different times, about a fortnight from one another, as a constant supply for the table, till there is plenty of other greens. There are two sorts of it, the prickly and the round: this, like most other plants of the like nature, thrives in a light, rich soil. Spinage-seed is sown for the Winter in the beginning of August.

In this month sow seeds of the cabbage lettuce of all kinds in the open ground among the crops; they delight in rich light ground and a warm exposure; to preserve a supply they should be sown every month from March to August.

The seeds of artich oak are sown at the beginning of this month, and planted out in April. The middle of this month is the most proper season to slip the roots for new plantations; they are generally raised by suckers. When the slips are cut, you must leave three heads growing upon every old root. The slips must be planted in lines two feet asunder, and four feet distance from each other. After planting they must be well watered. A strong rich soil, well exposed to the sun, is the most proper for them.

Sow

Sow your cauliflower seed this month in some corner of the garden, where the plants may be sheltered. Near the middle of the month, when they are in their first leaf, plant them in a nursery about five or six inches asunder, and continue them there till the latter end of May or June, when they are to be transplanted abroad for your crop. Rainy or moist weather is the best. If it be a dry season, make holes in the ground about three feet apart, and before you fix the plants, water the earth. You must afterwards water them very often.

The Autumn following they will bear large flowers; but some of them will not flower till after Michaelmas, and such plants must be taken up with the earth round their roots, and set together in a green house, or some such place, where they will enlarge themselves, and be fit to use in the Winter.

To have Summer cauliflowers you must sow the seed the beginning of August, upon some decayed hot bed, and transplant them about three inches distance, as soon as they have put out their first leaf, upon some other bed; the middle of September draw out every other plant, and set them six inches apart under a south wall, to stand there till Spring, when they are to be planted out for flowering; or you may set them in the places where they are to blossom, covering them with glass bells in the Winter.

If the weather is open, Asparagus may be sown the beginning of this month; the February or March following the seedlings will be fit to be planted out.

In order to obtain a natural crop, you must proceed thus; first measure out your ground, allowing four feet for breadth of each bed, and
two

two
open
tom
thick
lying
of the
tom o
is don
TH
distan
the n
their
Each
are pl
it leve
after l
and th
summe
alleys,
to rais
the bu
dung
In l
down
Winte
After
them
be late
and la
It is
paragu
where
here an
year.
Ab
appear

two feet for the alleys between the bed ; then open a trench at one end, and lay in the bottom of it horse-dung, about six or eight inches thick. Then trench the same quantity of ground, lying next to the first trench, throwing the earth of the second trench upon the dung in the bottom of the first ; and thus continue till the whole is done.

This being over, in lines at eight or ten inches distance, plant the asparagus, taken fresh out of the nursey, spreading their roots, and covering their buds with earth about four inches thick. Each bed takes up four rows ; when all the beds are planted, sow the whole with onions, and rake it level, for the alleys will not be of any use till after Michaelmas, when the onions will be off, and the shoots of the asparagus plants made that summer are to be cut down. Then dig up the alleys, and throw part of the soil upon the beds, to raise the earth about five or six inches above the buds of the plants, supplying the alleys with dung or some rich soil.

In March following, the earth must be raked down, and the alleys are to be turned up every Winter, and now and then enriched with dung. After Michaelmas cut down the haulm, and give them their Winter dressing ; and you are not to be later than the middle of March without raking and laying down the beds.

It is a general rule not to cut any of the asparagus till the fourth year after planting ; but where the plants are strong, a few may be taken here and there, in very small quantities, the third year.

About the beginning of April, the asparagus appears above ground, and may be cut till the begin

beginning of June, when they have stood five years ; but if they are younger, you must not cut them after the middle of May.

In the Flower Garden.

The poppy is an annual plant, sown in spots, and of various colours ; it is a beautiful but not lasting flower, and is commonly found in borders under walls. The venus's looking-glass is likewise sown in much the same manner. White hellebore is propagated from off-sets parted in March, in a soil that is light and rich.

Primroses will grow in almost any soil. The seed is sown in the natural ground about the latter end of this month ; and the seedling plants, which will not blossom till the second year, must be sown in a nursery, and the young plants removed to proper places the August after they are come up.

The stock gilly-flower is a shrub raised from seeds sown in this month, and transplanted the Autumn following. It loves a light dry soil ; and the double kinds of them, which we find amongst the seedling plants, may be increased by slips or cuttings planted in May, June, or July ; which being transplanted into pots, are, for their grateful smell, a proper ornament for the nicest places in the garden, and to adorn chimnies.

The several sorts of double wall-flowers may be raised from slips planted in shady places, either in March, April, May, or June ; but the bloody wall-flower may be more easily propagated from seeds sown in March.

The sun-flower is raised from seeds sown in large borders, where it will grow six feet high ;
it

it will
Everla
raised
Mich

The
seeds
cutting
will ta
is moi
bear f
colour
plenty
them
called
Spani
ing in
tion o

Th
it ma
barrer
in ric
come
remain
be fit

Th
might
tered
setting
month
hot-b

W
prece
tops

it will grow in the shade, and almost any soil. Everlasting double and single sun-flowers are raised by parting the roots in this month, or at Michaelmas.

The passion-tree is raised either from layers or seeds sown this month; and if you plant the cuttings in May or June in fine earth, they will take root: it must be fixed in a place that is moist and cool, and be often watered. It will bear fruit shaped like lemons, and of the same colour. You cannot see fruit if you lay plenty of cow-dung about the roots, and water them often during the flowering season. It is called the passion tree by the contrivance of some Spanish friars, who, by adding some things wanting in the natural flower, made it as a representation of our Saviour's Passion.

The juniper tree is a plant so pliable, that it may be brought to any form whatever: a barren soil is best; the berries must be sown in rich ground without watering. They will come up in about two months, and they must remain in the seed-bed two years before they will be fit to transplant.

The palm-tree is a green-house plant, but might be made to stand abroad, after being sheltered three or four years. It is produced by setting the stone of the fruit in light earth this month, and giving them the assistance of a hot-bed.

Produce of the month.

We have now, exclusive of the sallads the preceding month, some purslane, with young tops of tarragon. Sprouts of cabbages, young
cabbage

cabbage plants, or coleworts, and Winter spinach. Carrots sown in July, radishes of Michaelmas, red beet, and some late sown turneps.

In the hot-beds we have kidney-beans and some peas : and cucumbers upon the plants raised in January ; we have also asparagus upon the hot-bed made in February, preferable to those of the preceding months. And, towards the end of this month, the radishes sown upon the hot-bed in February will be fit to draw.

At the end of this month we have some scarlet strawberries ripe upon the hot-beds ; and also some few beans, if we forward them by artificial heats. Fruits yet lasting, are pears and apples of several sorts, with nuts, almonds, &c.. We have in some gardens ripe cherries and green apricots.

The flowers that blow this month are crocus, daisies, violets, wall-flowers, stock gilly-flowers, iris's of different sorts, hepatica's, crown imperial, primroses double and single, some kinds of fritillaria, and near the end of the month a few auricula's. Anemonies double and single, hyacinths, jonquils, narcissus, some precope tulips, violets, and the white polyanthus.

A P R I L.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

IN the early part of this month plant kidney-beans in some warm spot ; likewise garden-beans for a latter crop : sow marrow-fat and other large kind of peas : continue to sow all sorts

sorts of
cabbages
shifted
taken
up the
keep t
betwe
ridges
marjor
The fl
which
Spring
done
Pla
der, e
month
leavin
latter
tinue
middl
In
cresses
sow
which
end of
earth
groun
Ma
full c
forwa
but t
lifting
migh
the w
glasse

sorts of young salled herbs, also cös, Silesia, and cabbages lettuces; young cellery plants must be shifted into beds of rich earth, and, till they have taken root, must be watered every day. Draw up the earth to the stems of your peas and beans, keep them clear of weeds, and hough the ground between the rows. Prepare your dung to make ridges for melons and cucumbers, and sow sweet marjoram, thyme, and other aromatic plants. The stems of your cabbage and cauliflower plants, which were planted in Autumn, or early in the Spring, must be earthed up close; let this be done after a shower of rain.

Plant cuttings or slips of rosemary and lavender, especially after rain. Near the end of the month hough carrots, parsneps, and onions, leaving the two first above five or six, and the latter about three or four inches distance. Continue to make plantations of strawberries till the middle of the month.

In open borders sow small sallads, such as cressles, mustard, turnep, or rape and radish: sow seeds of thyme, and other aromatic herbs, which must not be delayed longer than the latter end of this month: sow small seeds shallow in the earth if the soil is heavy, if it is light, sandy ground, they must be sown deeper.

Make ridges for cucumbers and melons for a full crop, and prune the melon plants upon the forward ridge from all superfluous branches; but this is to be done very carefully, without lifting up the runners from the ground, which might bruise the tender branches, and endanger the whole plant. They may be raised under bell-glasses, or oiled paper, covered over with two hoop-

sticks stuck in the ground, one across the other, the size of a bell-glass.

If the weather be dry and windy, you are to stake up all new-planted trees, if that work was neglected in the preceding month, watering them well once in eight or ten days. Defend trees and plants from snails and slugs, which in this month make great destruction in the kitchen-garden.

In the Fruit Garden.

All suckers must be removed from fig-trees, which are now apt to send forth plentifully. The apples that remain to be grafted may be completed this month, which is the best time for grafting between the bark and the wood.

You must watch the new planted vines, and not suffer above one shoot, or two at most, to remain. The only thing you are to endeavour to accomplish is, to get large bearing wood as soon as possible, which may be effected by a taking away the smallest shoots; the head being disburdened, the root is strengthened of course. Rub off such young shoots of new-planted trees against walls as direct themselves forward, leaving only those which shoot sideways.

New planted trees should be often refreshed with water, and have either a semicircular paving of small stones round their roots, or a small heap of weeds or grass laid to keep them moist and cool.

The binding of all trees that are not thriving should this month be taken off. Let your garden be kept clean, and dig borders half spit deep. The most effectual method to destroy the weeds, and

and preserve a good culture to old trees, is by repeatedly stirring up the earth.

The reason why the blossoms of young fruit fall off from vigorous peach-trees in this month, has been compared to a nurse overmuch abounding with milk, by which means the child is frequently in danger of being choaked. It is on this principle that those who are experienced in gardening have directed the laying the branches of trees horizontally, and keeping them free from great wood, and perpendicular shoots in the middle, that the sap may be carried in that due proportion and quantity which is necessary. It is more easy to be effected by horizontal than perpendicular shoots.

Pear and apple-trees that are barren must be managed thus ; take off the strongest branches about a quarter of an inch, according to the bigness of the branch, cutting it entirely away to the wood. They will continue to bear fruit for some years ; and when they die, you will always find in the pear-tree a sufficient number of others to succeed them.

Cherry-trees that are not in a thriving way must be dealt with thus ; slit down the tree perpendicularly with the point of a knife, just entering the bark of the stem to prevent their being hide-bound, because the grain of the bark, contrary to most other trees, runs horizontally. If this operation is not executed, it will remain in an unthriving state for ten or fifteen years ; but after they have been thus dealt with, they will thrive and prosper amazingly.

The gardener must now be particularly careful to destroy all snails and slugs, which are very detrimental to the young wall-fruit. The only

means to effect this is to wrap about the stem of a tree two or three rounds of line, or rope made of horse-hair, such as are generally used to hang cloaths on ; these are so full of stubs and straggling points of the hair, that neither a snail nor slug can pass over them, without being killed ; so that the head of the tree, if it be a standard or dwarf, can receive no hurt, if the bottom of the stem is properly secured.

When the hair is very short that forms these lines it is by far the best ; for then they will be full of points, and compleatly armed against any attempts of these destructive vermin. In espaliers of fruit-trees it is only necessary to wrap these hair-lines about the stems of trees near the root, and about the bottom of every stake, which is to be done in the Winter when the snails are laid up in close quarters. In order to preserve plants and herbs, which are liable to be destroyed by slugs or snails, the hair-lines are to be fastened about the edges of the beds in which they are planted.

In the Flower Garden.

This month and the beginning of the next, sow the seeds of the carnation, a flower of all others the most delightful as well for its agreeable smell as beautiful colours. The compost proper for this flower is made of sandy loam, and well consumed melon earth, one load of the latter to two of the former ; they must be well sifted together, and let them lie in a heap for some time to mellow ; then sift it a second time, either to sow the seeds in, or to plant your layers on. When you have filled your pot with

with the
on you
with
board,
seed w
young
July f
ten inc
from
uncov
refres

The
into t
names
and fl
spotte
the p
upper
der fi
are st
are o
the fl
er ve
num
tulip
are t
flow
in d
and
a gl
of th

N
seed
omi
and

with this earth, and smoothed the top, sprinkle on your seeds, and after having covered them with the same compost, press it gently with a board, and let them stand open to the air; the seed will come up in about three weeks, and the young plants be fit to transplant into beds the July following, where they must be set about ten inches distant from each other, and shaded from the sun with mats for about three weeks, uncovering them every night, that the dews may refresh them.

The different kinds of this flower are divided into five classes, and are distinguished by the names of piketees, painted ladies, beazarts, flakes and flames: the piketees are of a white ground, spotted colour, or pounced with red or purple; the painted ladies have their petals tinged on the upper side, either with red or purple, and the under side of the leaves is plain white; the beazarts are striped with four distinct colours; the flakes are of two colours or more, always striped; and the flames have a red ground striped with black or very dark colours. Each of these classes is very numerous, but the piketees abundantly so. As tulips are the glory of the Spring, so these flowers are the pride of the Summer. The seeds of this flower are gathered the latter end of September, in dry weather, with the stalks they grow upon, and they must remain exposed to the sun through a glass for a month or two, without opening any of the husks till the time of sowing the seeds.

Now sow in the natural ground all foreign seeds, and such flowering seeds as have been omitted the preceding month. Sow scarlet beans, and when they are grown up fasten them properly

to a wall, where the branches will advantageously spread. The seed is annually sown this month in good ground well exposed to the sun. Sow scabious and marygolds, and plant and set all fibrous rooted plants.

About the beginning of this month your auricula seeds will appear above ground, and are to be carefully watered; and those auricula which are now in their bloom, should be refreshed with moderate waterings every three days; but they are to be guarded against the sun and rains.

After rain clip your edgings of box. Sow pine and fir seeds, covering them with a net to keep them from the birds: this is the best time of the Spring to remove all sorts of ever-greens. If the weather be moist it is not yet too late to make layers of jessamine, honeysuckle, roses, and such like shrubs.

Instructions relative to the manure of the month.

Melon seeds are sown on the hot-bed for ridge plants the beginning of March, and about a week after sowing they are fit to plant out four inches apart, where they are to remain till their first leaf is about the bigness of a crown piece; when the second or third joint appears, you must cut off the prime leader from each plant near the ear-leaves, and they will each of them quickly put out three other runners, which will produce fruit in abundance; those are commonly pruned at every third or fourth joint.

About the latter end of April, the plants they raise will be fit to plant on ridges, which are thus made: cut a trench about two feet and a half

half v
horse-
feet
at th
of th
over
earth
done
earth
to be
days
plan
and
O
bear
high
near
the
mal
bea
the
wet
sho
to
ing
the
oth
Fr
ev
nu
su
gr
w
w
W

half wide, and sixteen inches deep, in which lay horse-litter, prepared as for a hot-bed, about two feet thick, spread equally and trod gently; then at the distance of about four feet, in the middle of the ridge, you are to make holes ten inches over and six deep, which are to be filled with earth prepared for that purpose. When this is done, the whole must be covered with the same earth, about five inches thick; and the beds are to be made four feet wide and flat. Two or three days after the ridges are made, plant two melon plants in each hole, and cover them with glasses and mats.

Of kinney-beans there are two sorts; the one bears early and near the root, without running high, called the Battersea bean; the other grows near six feet high. These beans must be sown the first week in this month, in a light fresh soil, making drills from north to south, and laying the beans in them about four inches asunder, covering them with earth, raised in a ridge, to keep the wet from them. The lines of the Battersea bean should be two feet apart; and the other kind are to be sowed in rows, like the rounceval peas, having alleys between them two feet and a half wide: the Battersea kind need not be staked: but the others will not bear well, unless they are staked. From the first sowing in this month, we may once every three weeks, till the middle of July, continue to sow fresh ground with kidney-beans to succeed one another; observing, that when the ground is very dry, as in June and July, and the weather hot, we must water the drills as soon as we have opened them, before we put in the seed, which will contribute to their vegetation; but
after

after they are sown, we must avoid watering them. The Battersea beans, out of curiosity, may be sown in hot beds the first week in September, and they will produce beans fit to gather in January.

It is the business of a gardener, if he has ground enough, to provide so many crops of peas as may furnish a table throughout the whole Summer: about November or December is sown the first crop; and the Charlton, or master hotspur, are the most proper for that season, sown in drills about two or three feet asunder, the lines running from north to south: in February a second crop of the same kind of peas should be sown; and in March we may put in a third of the same sort: about the beginning of April some ground may be prepared for the dwarf-peas, which seldom rise higher than half a foot, and are set four or five inches apart, in lines about eighteen inches distant from one another: there is a sort of dwarf peas may be sown in May or June, to have a constant supply of young peas; the smallest sort are sown in edgings, and being sown upon a gentle hot bed the first week in September, will produce peas in the Winter.

Rosemary and lavender grow best in a light sandy soil, and are raised from slips planted in this month, which quickly take root if they are shoots of the last year, but if older, they will not grow: these herbs are apt to suffer by frosts, and should be planted in the driest and warmest part of the garden.

Up
we ha
souther
fortnig
mushro
the be
are no
the m
which
bage.
ses, ra
herbs
terreg
and
carrot
the o
young
time
T
ripe
foun
berri
lister
B
the
war
T
las,
wal
tian
sea
lau
pal

The products of the month.

Upon natural beds in gardens near London, we have plenty of asparagus, but in the more southern parts of England it is cut sooner by a fortnight. We have plenty of cucumbers and mushrooms, that were sown on hot beds made the beginning of February. Young radishes are now very plentiful; and towards the end of the month some of the Dutch brown lettuce, which have stood the Winter, will begin to cabbage. Sallads on the natural ground are, cresses, radish, turnip, and mustard; and the other herbs proper to mix with them are, young onions, terregon, and burnet. There are scallions, leeks, and sweet herbs, growing of all sorts. Young carrots, sown in Autumn, and some sprouts from the old stems of cabbages and coleworts, or young cabbage plants: radish tops are at this time a very good fallad.

There are several sorts of fruit that are now ripe; cherries and large green apricots are to be found in plenty in fruit gardens; also ripe strawberries, upon those plants which have been assisted by hot beds.

Be careful to water your pine apples often, in the heat of the day giving them air, and if they want larger pots, transplant them.

The flowers that blow this month are, auriculas, polyanthus's, tulips, daisies, heparica, iris's, wall flower, rosemary, pansies, ranuncula, gentianellas, crown imperial, double cuckow flower, sea pink, double paradise, syringas, fritillaries, laurus tinus, star of Bethlehem, marsh marigold, paliurus, and lilly of the valley.

M A Y

M A Y.

Business of the Kitchen Garden.

TAKE out all the plants from the roots of your artichocks, which have been produced since the old stocks were slipped, and cut off all the small artichocks from the sides of the stems. If it is likely to rain sow turneps, hoe those sowed last month, and in open ground sow cucumbers for pickling. Towards the latter end of the month, if the weather is favourable, transplant the tomatoes for soups, and the capsicum for pickling, which have been raised upon hot beds; and if the weather is dry, water them often. You may forward the cabbaging of your early cabbages, by tying their leaves together with a withy or bafs mat. Destroy all manner of weeds in your garden-beds, before they shed their seed. Sow peas and beans in a moist soil for a latter crop. About the middle of the month plant cauliflowers for Winter use; keep the ground moist, and shade the beds every day with mats. Plant out the red and white cabbages and savoy for Winter use. Transplant the first sown cellery into drills for blanching; draw the earth about the stems of the cauliflowers, cabbage plants, beans, or any others crop. In the heat of the day shade the cucumbers under frames with mats, but let the melons in warm weather have air. Transplant Silesia, cos, and imperial luttuces, to succeed those of the last month.

Y. A. M.

In

You n
apricots c
on a tro
fore two
cient.
thered l
to clean
off the
which v
canker-
Tie
leaving
Loosen
as will
tween t
wood.
gin to
where
pick o

Yo
hear
they
pods.

Th
tings
earth
in A
till
this
raise

In the Fruit Garden.

You must be very careful to thin peaches and apricots of their superabundant fruit, for too many on a tree make the whole insipid ; and therefore two upon one branch are esteemed sufficient. You must now take away all dry, withered branches from wall trees, and be careful to cleanse them from snails, cankers, &c. Cut off the extremities of the shoots of gooseberries, which will in a great measure prevent or kill the canker-worm.

Tie up the shoots of the vine to the props, leaving only three or four of the strongest shoots. Loosen or disengage such branches of the vine as will be observed sometimes to be bound between the joints of the wall, and behind the larger wood. About the latter end of the month begin to nail the most forward branches of the vine, where fruit is close to the wall, and be careful to pick off all fruitless shoots.

In the Flower Garden.

Your choice tulips must be shaded from the heat of the sun, and defended from rain ; when they have done flowering break off their seed-pods.

The ficoides, which is propagated by the cuttings being planted abroad in a natural bed of earth in this month, will be fit to put in pots in August, where it may remain in the open air till the latter end of September : some kinds of this plant are annual, and therefore must be raised from seeds every year ; and one sort of it will

will stand the Winter, if we raised young plants of it about July or August, that do not blossom three or four months. The shrub kinds which have their stalks woody will bear moderate watering, but the others, which are more succulent, must have very little water. These plants must have the benefit of the sun to open their blossoms, unless two kinds, which only flower in the night. The cuttings of these plants should not be planted till the sun has dried up the wounded parts.

The torch-thistle bears no leaves. It is a succulent plant, propagated from cuttings, planted between May and the end of July; they must be planted upon a little hill in the middle of the pot, for they can hardly endure water; they must stand abroad about twenty days to take root, before put into the hot-bed, observing to water them at their first putting in pot; and during the Summer months they may now and then be gently refreshed: the best compost for these plants is the rubbish of old walls, mixed with about one third of sandy soil.

The myrtle tree is increased by layers in this month; the youngest shoots that are tender must be bent into the earth after it is well stirred, and being often refreshed with water, will take root, and be fit to take off from the mother plants the Spring following. The cuttings of this tree are planted in July, stripping off the leaves two inches from each cutting, and setting that depth about an inch apart, in pots of fine light earth, watering them frequently till they have taken root, which will be about the latter end of August: this young plantation is to remain till the second of March before they are transplanted into

into sing
trees as
the roots
branches
of the fl
The
from cu
the cutt
are to b
tered fro
the foll
exposur
make f
be raise
soil, un
is by fa

The
visiting
discipli
plants.
left fo
should
found
boards
and m
are we
and o
certain
and an
tion,
freque
some
appro

into single pots. Near the middle of April such old trees as are in a bad state may be pruned about the roots, and have fresh earth put to them; their branches must be cut within three or four inches of the stem.

The pyracintha is an evergreen plant, raised from cutting, planted in this month or June; the cuttings, which are to be fresh tender twigs, are to be planted in pots of fine earth, and watered frequently, keeping them from the sun till the following Winter, at which time a warm exposure will cherish them, and prepare them to make strong shoots in the Spring. It may also be raised by seeds and layers. A light gravelly soil, unmixed with dung, or other rich manure, is by far the best.

Manure of the month.

The industrious gardener will now be daily visiting the kitchen and fruit garden, not only disciplining the barren, but encouraging the weak plants. All new planted trees are to be watched, lest some of them, for want of seasonable help, should pine and languish; therefore such as are found in a declining state must be sheltered with boards and mats; for though the sun gives life and motion to vegetable nature, yet those that are weak are apt to be overpowered with its heat, and on its too frequent and sudden returns will certainly die away. The analogy between plants and animals is sufficiently shewn in this observation, and particularly the human race; for we frequently find, in a severe season, the bodies of some men will be sensibly injured by a too sudden approach to a large fire.

An operation must be performed towards the latter end of this month, which is, by shortening luxuriant branches in all fruit-trees, except vines, to two inches of the place from whence they shoot: Winter pruning, instead of taking from, gives vigour to a tree; but this operation now, when Nature is in its full career, gives a great damp and check to its course. The shortening luxuriant branches this month respects not only such branches as are intended to be left to fill a void place, but also all vigorous shoots made from the place of inoculation in the nursery, as well as the same made from new planted trees, especially apricots and peaches, which are apt, from too much vigour, to be in very great danger. In the Summer trees of all kinds may be thus transplanted.

Produce of the month.

We have this month great plenty of asparagus, and cauliflowers are now in perfection. The imperial royal Silesia, and others sort of cabbage lettuces, are in their prime, and very proper salads for this season, mixed with young burnet, purslain, the flowers of the small nasturtium, and cucumbers.

Carrots which were sown on hot beds in February are now very good; but those remaining of the crop sown at Michaelmas are past use; we have still some kidney beans on hot beds. This month produces plenty of artichokes; and peas and beans which were sown in October may be now gathered.

Pears and apples of different sorts still remain eatable. We have now green gooseberries for
tarts,

tarts, a
ripe sc
likewi
of the
apricot
The
bines,
cula's,
roses,
flower
catch
camp
nus,

PL
that
dera
ever
Yo
this
roo
tha
hul
pro
Sh
an
all
be
T
m

tarts, and towards the end of the month we have ripe scarlet strawberries in the natural ground ; likewise the common May cherry, with some few of the May duke cherries against walls, and green apricots for tarts.

The flowers that blow this month are, columbines, tulips, peonies, double jonquils, ranuncula's, asphodels, yellow lily, lychnis orchis, pinks, roses, rockets, veronicas, stock gillyflower, star-flower, chalcedons, crowfoot, martagon, double catchfly, Venetian vetch, arborjudæ, bee flowers, campanellas, honeysuckles, buglos, moly, cyanus, cytissus, and iris's.

J U N E.

Work of the month.

PLANTS of all sorts must be carefully preserved from the violent heat of the sun ; those that have been already transplanted must be moderately watered about their extreme fibres : the evening is the best time to do this sort of work. You must not cut asparagus after the first week of this month, as it will very much impoverish the roots. In dry weather gather seeds of all sorts that are ripe, and spread them to dry before their husks or pods are rubbed or beaten. This is the proper season for distilling most sorts of herbs. Shade your melon plants in the heat of the day, and water the alleys between the beds. Destroy all snails and weeds. Plant the late crop of kidney beans, lettuce for a late crop, and likewise endive. The business in the kitchen garden is little this month, except weeding and watering.

In the Fruit Garden.

The shoots of peaches, whose leaves are infected by blights, and begin to appear curled at the extremities, are to be carefully pruned off. Peaches, apricots, and plumbs, expect their Summer nailing, and likewise pruning, to let the sun come to the fruit, and avoid too much confusion.

You must now check the luxuriant growth of vines by a Summer pruning, wherein the branches must be shortened at the fourth or fifth bud beyond the fruit; but if a vigorous branch be wanted to fill a void place next year, it is best to let that particular branch alone till October. Nail or otherwise fasten those branches of grapes which project too much, and those unprofitable roots which were not before discovered, must be taken off.

In the Flower Garden.

We have this month the saffron crocus, a plant of great use as well as beauty; the leaves appear as soon as the flower is past, and remain all the Winter, which in the Spring should be tied together in knots, to help the increase of the roots. About Midsummer they will be fit to remove or transplant: it chiefly delights in a chalky ground, but it will also prosper in a sandy soil: the pistillum contains the saffron used in medicine. The roots of the several kinds of this plant may be taken out of the ground in this month, and replanted with other bulbs; they love a light soil, and may be increased by off sets.

This

This is a proper time to clip edgings of box, ever-green hedges, &c. especially after rain.

Let your pine-apples be frequently watered, and in the heat of the day give them air; those that want larger pots may be transplanted.

Mow grass walks early in the morning after rain, and continue to roll your gravel walks.

Transplant the roots of cyclamen, saffron, and colchicum. After rain continue to transplant annuals, and sow others to succeed those sown in the former months. Gather choice aquatick plants from rivers, ponds, ditches, &c. and transplant them into your water-tubs, where they make a pretty shew among other curious plants.

Such of your carnations as are strong enough to bear it, may be laid, but be careful to pick off their most tender flower buds. Large podded carnation, which generally burst, are now to be helped, by opening the other side of the pod with a fine penknife, without touching the flower leaves: earwigs, which infest these flowers, may be destroyed with ox-hoofs and tobacco-pipes.

Produce of the month.

Battersea and sugar-loaf cabbages are now fit to cut. You may draw young carrots and onions sown in February, and some young parsneps. The pot-herbs in use the preceding month are still good: and the flower-stems of burrage and burnet are good in cool-tankards. We have now melons of the first ridges.

The sallads of this month are composed of purslain, burnet, the flowers of nasturtium indicum,

cum, and cabbage-lettuces of various sorts, with some blanched endive and cucumbers. Artichocks, garden-beans, peas, kidney-beans and cauliflowers are in great perfection the beginning of this month.

Till about the end of the month you may gather green gooseberries for tarts. The ripe fruits are strawberries, raspberries and currants; we have likewise cherries of many kinds, as the duke, white, black, and red hearts. We have also codlings fit for use, and near the end of the month some genetings and the masculine apricot, peaches and nectarines, together with grapes, are now ripe in the forcing frames. Winter pears and apples are yet lasting. In the barks-beds ananas or pine-apples. Observe to net your cherries against the walls, or dwarfs, to prevent their being destroyed by the birds.

The flowers that blow this month are, campanula, convolvulus, lychnis, snapdragons, amaranthus, antirrhinum, pinks, nasturtium indicum, fraxinella, jasmynes, carnations, honey-suckles, pansies, roses, champions, poppies, marygolds, stock gilliflowers, cornflag, satyrions, candy-tufs, monkshood, tube-roses, digitalis or foxglove, and hollyhocks.

J U L Y.

The business of the month.

THE exercises in the garden are now for the most part gathering in the fruit of our labour bestowed in the Winter and Spring months; for we are arrived at that happy season which affords

affords us almost every variety the kitchen garden can produce. In order to preserve a further supply, you must now sow the last crop of kidney-beans, in a situation defended from morning frosts in Autumn. Plant cellery into drills for blanching, and continue to sow all sorts of small salad herbs. On dry evenings, water such plants as have lately been transplanted, and carefully destroy the weeds in every part of the garden. Give no water to your melons, which now begin to ripen. Repair your young asparagus beds, and plant in moist weather fresh plants, where any have failed : water, duly in dry weather, the cucumbers brought up under hand glasses ; transplant the cellery into beds, which was sown in May, and some endive, to succeed that planted the former month. Clear your artichokes from weeds, and break down close to the surface of the ground the stems of those fit for use on the old stocks ; make a bed for mushrooms as directed in February, and cover it very thin with earth. About the close of the month, sow spinach for Winter use ; coleworts, carrots and onions for Spring use ; transplant broccoli and cabbages for Spring use ; and plant out cauliflowers for the Autumn crop : transplant all kinds of lettuce sown last month ; destroy the different sorts of pernicious insects, which abound this month.

In the Flower Garden.

In the vineyard carefully tie the fruit branches to the props or espaliers, and diligently remove all weak and fruitless shoots, either by pinching or the knife, and keep them free from weeds all the

the Summer ; the much better way in Winter is to fork up the ground instead of digging it. The vines are now in their full strength, and push with the utmost vigour ; insomuch that the greatest confusion imaginable will ensue, if they are neglected and left unpruned.

Apricots are now to be exposed to the sun, by taking off some of the leaves, that the fruit may take its proper beauty and colour ; and the latter end of the month the peaches must be treated in the same manner. If any strong wood or water shoots push from the apricot or peach-tree this month, unless a void place wants to be filled, they ought to be entirely taken away ; but their young short branches are to be carefully preserved by nailing them to the wall.

You must now pay attention to the pear-tree, which, if over vigorous, must be properly disciplined ; and all branches that push forward are still to be cut off two inches. You may continue inoculation, especially after wet weather.

A plentiful application of water to a peach-tree full of fruit is a great advantage to the swelling and ripening of the fruit. The fruit-trees that are in pots must be now daily watered, otherwise their fruit will drop off : but with this care they will perform wonders. Fruit near the ground (if not too near) have a double advantage, and may be expected to be large and first ripe.

Snails, wasps, flies, earwigs, &c. being this month the great enemies to wall-fruit, particularly nectarines, the most effectual methods for their destruction are to be put in practice. In this and the preceding month, weeding ought to be

be dil
trees,
La
often
which
also f
to blo
Co
India
lent
to the
shoot
berri
anan

T
prin
thin
It
shoo
push
the
tow
take
spar
one
itse
wer
at t
the
war
cess
into

be diligently minded, that the borders of fruit-trees, &c. and alleys may be kept clean.

Lay carnations as they gather strength, and often refresh them with water. Sow tulip-seeds, which are now ripe, in cases of light earth; sow also some anemony seeds and annuals in edgings, to blow in September.

Continue to make cuttings of the torch-thistle, Indian fig, hythimals, sedums, and other succulent plants. Raise myrtles of cuttings, according to the directions given in May. Lay down young shoots of the Arabian jessamine. Set coffee-tree berries, which are now ripe; and the fruit of the ananas. Roll you gravel walks well after rain.

In the Fruit Garden.

The management of the vine being a very principal concern this month, we shall say something farther relating to it.

It has been observed, that, from a vigorous shoot of a vine already once pruned, there will push again several Midsummer shoots weaker than the former, from the first, second, and third bud, towards the extremity; which shoots are to be taken off, only remembering that it is proper to spare the last of such shoots, so far as to leave one bud upon it, from whence nature may exert itself a third time in Autumn: for if those shoots were all entirely removed, the vine would push at those bearing buds which lie at the bottom of the shoots; the effect whereof would be either the want of fruit at those places next year, or a necessity of pruning the branch shorter than was intended, or is convenient in the Winter.

Grapes

Grapes being exposed to the sun this month will not receive any danger ; for though the vines appear thin of leaves and wood, that fault will be recovered by the shoots in Autumn.

In order to destroy wasps and other insects, which now devour the peaches, apricots, and other fruits, place phials of honey and ale near the trees, and you will soon catch a large quantity of them. Renew the bottles once every week. Cover your grapes with nets, to prevent the birds getting at them.

Water, having a large quantity of walnut tree leaves steeped in it a fortnight or three weeks, being poured on the ground, will destroy worms, and make them quit their holes ; and they may be taken by a candle and lanthorn in a Summer's evening after rain.

In a dry season, if you take lime and brine, and pot-ashes decocted in water, and cast it on your grass-plats, it will not only destroy the worms, but improve the grass ; and a decoction of tobacco refuse will destroy worms in gravel walks.

Produce of the month.

The sallads for this month are cabbage-lettuces, purslane, tarragon, burnet, young onions, cucumbers, flowers of the nasturtium indicum, and some endive blanched.

We have now great plenty of melons, artichocks, cauliflowers, cabbages, young carrots, turneps and beet, peas, garden beans and kidney-beans. And also all sorts of herbs for the kitchen ; which are now very good, especially if the gardener has remembered from time to time to cut them down for shooting afresh.

Small

Sm
prime
ling
TH
goose
plum
peach
the
grape
the a
T
called
in a
in a
in th
stand
man
peac
care
fruit
peac
from
raise
thes
first
wor
war
ning
pose
juic
not
thes
and
sma
The
man

Small cucumbers for pickling are in their prime ; and this is the best month for the pickling of them.

The different fruits we have this month are, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, cherries, early plums, jenetting and codling apples, apricots, peaches and nectarines ; and towards the end of the month we have figs and some of the July grapes. The peaches are good for little yet, but the apricots are in full perfection.

There is one sort among peaches peculiar, called the bourdine, which succeeds very well in a standard, as the apricot ; and if it be situated in a warm place, and not carried up too high in the stem, will bear very well : this and the standard apricot-trees require only the same management with orchard fruit-trees. The wall peaches must be treated with a great deal of care, for the quantity and excellence of their fruit will be in proportion. These kinds of peaches, like the several apricots, are all varieties from one original stock or kind : they have been raised by planting the stones of fine peaches, for these trees vary from seed like flowers. The first stock may be from a nursery, but it will be worth while to raise new kinds this way afterwards. The peaches which ripen in the beginning of August should be chosen for this purpose, and such as have a thin skin, a yellowish, juicy flesh, and a small stone, sticking to the flesh, not parting from it. Some of the choicest of these should hang on the tree till they drop off, and the stones of these should be planted in a small bed of the nursery six weeks afterwards. The young plants are to be managed in the same manner as tender shrubs or plants of other kinds, and

and at two years growth are to be planted in the places designed for them, with the same care, and in the very same manner, as directed for apricots. They must remain in their new places till they have borne fruit ; and after the second year of fruiting their value will be discovered ; those that are bad must be pulled up, and the fine ones propagated by inoculating them on stocks in the general manner. The best stocks for the early kinds are the almond, and for the others the muscle plum. These stocks are to be raised from the stone, and trees planted at one year old, to prevent their sending down great top roots ; and after two years more growth in the nursery they will be fit for this purpose. When the trees are to be brought to the places where they are to stand, they must be taken up with care early in Autumn, the roots trimmed, the trees carefully planted, and all the branches nailed slightly to the wall : they are to be defended during the Winter, by laying turfs at their roots the wrong side upwards.

The flowers that blow this month are, basil, geraniums, gladiolus, clematis, or virgin's bower, African marygolds, thlaspi creticum, veronica, lark-heels, lupines, scabious, marvel of Peru, lobels, catch-flies, lillies of all sorts, apples of love, marygolds, female balsams, dittany, passion flower, cardinal-flower, sun-flower, and valerian.

A U G U S T.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

AS the first part of this month is generally hot and dry, frequent waterings are necessary, which must be carefully attended to, as well as the destruction of vermin.

About the middle of the month, or towards the latter end, sow some common cabbage-lettuce, and brown Dutch lettuce, to be planted under frames, to come up early in the Spring; also cos and Sillesia lettuces. Sow cauliflower seed for the early crop under bell or hand-glasses. Weed your beds of coleworts sown last month; if the plants are too thick, draw some of them out and transplant them. Sow your early Battersea and Yorkshire cabbage seed. Earth up your celerery in dry weather; tie up your full grown endive, manage your artichokes as before directed; gather your cucumbers for pickling; sow turneps for a latter crop; hough your spinach sown last month, and gather your seeds as before directed. In moist weather cut off the flowering branches of those aromatic plants which are past flowering, that they may make new shoots before Winter.

In the Fruit Garden.

We are now to review the laying peaches and apricots open to the sun to perfect their ripening. Continue the pruning of those vines that were neglected the last month, and keep the

G

fruit

fruit as close to the wall as possible ; but the grapes are now to be discreetly shaded with leaves, and sufficiently defended against the cold nights, at the latter end of the month.

In gathering apricots this and the other months, great care is to be used that you do not break the branch whereon they grow ; because from thence we are to expect another bearing branch the succeeding year.

The borders are now to be reviewed and kept clean ; and at the latter end of this month give them a stirring, the better to receive the autumnal rains.

Give the ever-green hedges and pyramids a second clipping, which in a wet season will be much wanted. Make layers of all sorts of shrubs and trees, which remain abroad all Winter, observing always to lay down the most tender shoots.

There being little more to be done this month in the fruit garden than what has been directed in the former months, we shall proceed to the works.

In the Flower Garden.

The tulip-tree is a plant of the wood, and should be set among such trees as are designed for groves, where it will rise to a great height ; its leaves are somewhat like those of the maple, and the flowers have some resemblance of a tulip, which gave name to the tree. The seeds of this tree, which are brought from Virginia, are to be sown in pots this month, and sheltered all the Winter, and the Spring following they will come up. The young plants may be transplanted into pots, at two years growth, and must have shelter in the Winter for

for the
gathered
our from
natural
time of
cause
raised in

The
among
flowers
ary.

The
frosts,
crease
latter
beds
plant
ture ;
and
in po
of a
temb
and

L
when
and
prop
gard
wall
rare
The
and
Th
and

for the first nine years at least, till they have gathered strength enough to resist the severity of our frosts, and they may then be planted in the natural ground ; a sandy soil is the best. This time of sowing of seeds must be observed, because experience has shewn they are not to be raised in the Spring.

The bushy violet, or snow-drop, is reckoned amongst the daffodils. It is one of the most early flowers in the Spring, generally blowing in January.

The hyacinth will bear the severity of our frosts, and blows early in the Spring ; it is increased from off sets of the roots, planted the latter end of this month, or in September, in beds of sandy soil. The tuberous hyacinth is a plant of an aspiring head, and a very tender nature ; the roots of it must be taken up in April, and being carefully parted, are to be replanted in pots of prepared earth, and have the assistance of a hot-bed like other tender shrubs. In September you may take up the bulbs of this plant, and preserve them in dry sand.

Lillies are propagated by parting their roots when the leaves are fallen about July, or August, and delight in an open sandy soil : they are very proper flowers for the middle of borders in great gardens, or to be planted under hedges in long walks ; and the striped white lilly is so great a rarity as to deserve place in the nicest garden. The orange lilly is very ornamental in gardens, and an agreeable companion for the white lilly. The lilly of the valley delights in shady ground, and is easily increased from plants.

Produce of the month.

We have now fallads composed of cabbage lettuces, cressies, mustard, cucumbers, radish, with a mixture of tarragon. We have horse-radish, plenty of cucumbers for pickling, all sorts of kitchen herbs, and towards the end we cut cellery.

There are artichocks, cauliflowers, beans, peas, and kidney-beans cabbages and cabbage sprouts, beets, carrots and turneps, but other boiling roots must not yet be used. We have likewise musk-melons in great abundance.

Although the present produce is very extensive, yet we have several roots and herbs of the last year, such as rocambole, shalots, onions, garlick, &c.

We have variety of fruit this month, such as apricots, peaches, and nectarines; several sorts of grapes, figs, Summer pears and apples, mulberries, and some filberts. Morella cherries are now ripe, and plums of various kinds. Gooseberries, raspberries, and currants are still very good.

The flowers that blow this month, are colchicum, Autumnal hyacinths, belvederes, ranunculas, cyclamens, amaranthus, starwort, nigella monthly roses, hellebore, jessamines, and the mallow tree.

S E P T E M B E R.

Business of this month.

MAKE plantations of Dutch and brown lettuce to stand the Winter. Plant out cauliflowers sown the last month, upon old cucumber or melon beds, and sow Spanish radish spinach. In dry weather hough and clean turneps, weed the beds of spinach, onions, carrots, cauliflowers, cabbage plants, and coleworts.

About the middle of the month you may safely transplant most sorts of annual aromatic plants. Continue to sow small salad herbs; gather all seeds as they ripen, and preserve them as before directed. Blanch endive, transplant lettuces, cut down the haulm of asparagus, and be careful to dung and hough the beds. Preserve your young cauliflower plants from rain, prepare the ground of your Summer crops for fresh ones, or trench it up to lie till Spring free from all weeds.

Near the end of the month plant some beans and early peas in warm borders. Let your latter crop of cellery be transplanted into drills, and the last crop of broccoli where it is to continue. Seeds in general must be dried in the sun before they are laid up, to preserve them properly for future uses.

In the Fruit Garden.

Gather such fruits as are ripe upon the trees, and others that are full grown, and in good condition to be laid up for the use of the following months. Such pears or apples as are fit to gather will easily quit the tree; therefore use no violence if they do not come off easy. A room where very little air comes is the best place to keep them for Winter use.

Before you eat Winter pears, let them be warmed by the fire as you do red port, which will very much heighten their flavour.

You may still inoculate pears; but a vegetative nature has now made a considerable stop in its circulation of sap, and the growth of most trees, and all kinds of delicious fruits are now ripe, we have little to do in this and the former month, but to collect and enjoy what the gardens so abundantly produce.

Be careful to preserve your fruit from wasps; earwigs, and ants.

In the Flower Garden.

Let your tall flowers be staked to prevent injury from the winds, which at this time blow hard. Sow the seeds of bulbous rooted plants, as tulips, ranunculus, crocus, &c.

Take off your carnation layers; transplant flowering shrubs of all sorts, and make layers of them, such as the honey-suckle, jessamine, virgin's bower, Virginian dogwood, periwinkle, &c. Plant your jonquil roots, and let them stand two or three years in the same place. Sow stock-gillflowers

flowers for a supply in the Spring. We may yet plant ever-greens, such as hollies, yews, box, &c. if they rise with good roots, but the best season is August. Sow poppies, larkspurs, annual stocks, candy-tufts, and Venus's looking-glass, to blossom early in the Spring.

Manure of the Month.

As the tulips is a beautiful flower, and requires particular care in its cultivation, we should describe it at large. It is propagated as follows: the stems of this flower being left remaining upon the root, will perfect the seeds about July, which will be fit to gather when the seed-vessels begin to burst; then they are to be cut close to the ground in a dry day, and laid in some dry place till September, which is the most proper season for sowing them.

They love a soil composed of sand and natural black earth, or the rubbish of old buildings and natural earth, but may be sown in a natural soil, and the first year their roots will be very small, but after their second appearance above ground, they may be taken from the pots or cases they were sown in, and put in a bed of natural sandy soil well sifted, where the thickness of half an inch of the same earth should be spread over them; and, thus they are to continue, without any other culture than adding half an inch of the earth for the covering every year, till they begin to blow, which will be in five or six years time. In this manner tulip seeds are to be sown every year for new varieties.

It is good to plant all the forward blowers in a bed together; and of the late flowering tulips to

to place the tallest sorts in the middle line of the bed, with two rows of the shortest blowers on each side. When they are planted in this month, they need no shelter till the March, that the flower-buds appear, and then they ought to be defended from blights with mats or painted cloth strained upon hoops ; which covering will serve also for sheltering the flowers from the heat of the sun and rain, when they are blown.

There are two different classes of tulips ; the præcore, or early blowers, and the serotine, or later blowers : and these are distinguished by their double and single flowers. They have also different denominations from their colours and stature ; as bagats, which are the tallest flowers, commonly purple and white marbled ; agates, which grow shorter than the other, whose flowers are veined with two colours ; and beazarts, which have four colours, tending to yellow and reds of different kinds.

The cultivation of violets in gardens is increased by transplanting their runners either in this month or in February ; they will take root of themselves at every joint, without the assistance of any art. They should be planted in the most rural part of the garden, or near the edges of garden beds ; a binding soil and shady situation is by far the best.

Annuals stocks are sown in spots, or may be used for edgings, their flowers being of a pink colour. You may increase daisies by parting their roots either in Spring or Autumn, they make pretty edgings for flower beds.

The honeysuckle or woodbine is a twining plant, proper to be placed about trees in avenues, to intermix its blossoms among their branches ; or it may be trained up into a standard as a headed plant

plant i
These p
best m
pots, b
be agr
moved
room f
cutting
this mo
the na
presum
The
from
candle
berries
being
Th
the c
will
deligh
much
by la
make
seeds
stand
follor

T
cress
tarr
lettu
T
mul
you

plant in the most remote part of the garden. These plants, and indeed all flowering shrubs, are best managed as headed plants, and planted in pots, by which means, when in flower, they may be agreeably mixed with ever-greens, and removed as soon as the blossom is over, to make room for others. They are raised from layers or cuttings, ordered like those of the jessamine, in this month or October: they love shade, and are the natural inhabitants of the woods, where they perfume the air with their fragrant odours.

The Virginia myrtle, which bears berries, from which is drawn the green wax whereof candles are made, is propagated by sowing the berries in pots of black sandy earth, in this month, being kept continually moist.

The box-tree is valuable for its wood, and for the continued verdure of its leaves. This plant will make delightful hedges in gardens: but it delights in chalky mountains, where it will grow much quicker than in our gardens. It is raised by layers, slips, or seeds; and the best time to make layers or slips of it is in this month; the seeds of it may be sown so soon as ripe, or laid in sand during the Winter to be sown the Spring following.

Produce of the Month.

The sallads of this months are composed of cresses, radishes, chervil, young onions, burnet, tarragon, some blanched cellery and endive, and lettuce.

There are yet melons and cucumbers, plenty of mushrooms upon beds and in pasture grounds, young garden peas and beans, and some kidney-

ney-beans. Cabbages and sprouts of cabbages in great abundance; carrots, turneps, skirrets, beets, onions, shalots, rocambole, and horse-radish.

We have in this month good flowers and suckers from artichokes planted in Spring; and in our kitchen garden we have still plenty of cauliflowers.

The fruit-garden affords us this month grapes, peaches, and nectarines in great abundance. The old Newington peach, which is so much valued, is now in its greatest perfection. There are blue and white figs, blue and white perdigran plums, the Summer bon cretien, bergamot, and other sorts of pears. Some apples, walnuts, and filberds.

The method of preserving ripe grapes till Christmas is thus: let them be gathered when they are full ripe, and dry; cut the branches off with three or four joints of the branch, and wax each end of the joint with sealing wax: then hang them in a room where there is generally a fire. Melons that are full grown and not ripe, will ripen, if put in a net and hung up in a warm room.

The flowers that blow this month are, love-apples, moly, colchicums, Guernsey lilies, sun-flowers, hollyhocks, tube-roses, double violets, saffron-crocus, poppies, stock-gilliflowers, carnations, Indian pinks, Æthiopic apples, and musk-roses.

I T
for
liflowe
which
and b
lar, c
long
fettin
up fu
conti
Draw
on t
plant
your
July
bean
mon
tions
place
Brea
ers
wet
plan
min
bed
dun
and
tabl
gar
bed

O C T O B E R.

Business of the Month.

IT is now time to make plantations of lettuce for Winter use : transplant cabbages and cauliflower plants ; take up those cauliflower plants which begin to flower, tie their leaves together, and bury their roots and stalks in sand in a cellar, or some cool place. Cut artichocks with long stalks, and preserve them in the house by setting their stalks in sand. Dress and earth up such artichocks as have done blowing, and continue to earth up cellery for blanching. Draw up some full grown endive, to plant down on the sides of the ridges to blanch. Transplant lettuces upon warm borders, and keep your spinach, carrots, onions, &c. sown in July and August, clean from weeds. Plant beans and peas at the beginning and end of this month upon dry grounds, and in warm situations. Transplant cauliflower plants into the places where they are to abide the Winter. Break down the inner leaves of your cauliflowers sown in May, to defend them from frost or wet, and earth up the stems of your broccoli plants : make some moderate hot beds to plant mint and tansy upon. Guard your mushroom-beds from wet and frost : spread some rotten dung on the beds of seedling asparagus plants, and make hot beds for asparagus, if required at table in December. Lay on the quarters of the garden the dung of your melons and cucumber beds, also the dung of the lay-stall.

Sow

Sow kidney-beans in baskets under a south-wall, to be afterwards forwarded by hot-beds, for early beans: and hotspur-peas, and Spanish beans, in some well exposed border under a wall or a hedge. Sow also radishes in some warm place to draw early in the Spring; and cresses, lettuce, mustard, spinach, &c. upon a decayed hot-bed: put likewise some roots of mint upon a gentle hot-bed for Winter sallads.

In the Fruit Garden.

This is the most proper season for planting of peaches, apricots, and other fruit-trees, which is best done in untryed earth, nothing being more prejudicial to them than dung.

If the weather should be moist or wet this month, the borders must be raised, and the trees planted high; for it is certain death to peaches and apricots to stand where water stagnates in the Winter. Vines should be planted against walls seven or eight feet asunder. The best soil for vines is the rubbish of old buildings, sea-coal ashes, or drift sand with rotten dung, mixed with an equal quantity of natural earth.

Preserve a good stick of untryed earth to be ready, on all occasions, for fruits-tree, ever-greens and flowers.

In the Flower Garden.

Continue to transplant and lay roses and such like flowering shrubs; and to plant the cuttings of jessamines and honeysuckles in shady borders: Sow the berries of yew, holly, and other ever-greens, prepared in earth or sand, and if the season

season be
pruned.

Let t
be in t
them; b
are to g
lent pla
clean fro

With
trees, i
in dry
cherries
pears a
provide
For the
fruit tr
will re
or two
feet h
either
planted
plum o

Before
that t
purpos
deep
feet o
a foot
serve
plant
untry
with
of you

season be mild, these kinds of plants may be pruned.

Let the time of watering your housed greens be in the morning, when the sun shines upon them; but after the middle of the month you are to give no watering to your tender succulent plants. Be careful to keep your walks clean from autumnal leaves.

Manure of the Month.

With respects to soils for plantation of fruit-trees, it has been observed that vines thrive best in dry light ground: that peaches, plums and cherries delight in a sandy loam; and figs, pears and apples agree with all sorts of soils, provided the ground be near three feet deep. For the distance to be observed in planting of fruit trees, a wall of seven or eight feet high will require the trees to be planted about ten or twelve feet asunder; and if the walls be ten feet high, eight or ten feet asunder; but in either case the peach and nectarine should be planted at a much less distance than the apricot, plum or cherry.

Before you begin your plantations be careful that the ground is properly enriched for that purpose; the border should be dug two feet deep the whole length of it, and four or six feet over, filling it up with a sandy loam half a foot higher than the level; be careful to preserve some of the finest mould near the top, to plant your trees in. Experience tells us that untryed earth dug from a waste or common fed with cattle is the most agreeable for all manner of young fruit-trees,

Produce of the month.

The herbs which form sallad this month are cressies, chervil, mustard, radish, turnep, rape, spinach, lettuce, burnet, tarragon, young onions, blanched cellery, and endive.

For kitchen use we have now parsley, beets, and all sorts of aromatic herbs: likewise cauliflowers, artichoaks, peas and beans, and kidney beans sown in July; and we have yet cucumbers, and some melons, with plenty of mushrooms.

This month produces the following roots for boiling; carrots, turneps, parsnips, potatoes, skirrets, scorzonera, and beets. To use raw, we have onions, garlick, shalots, and other roots. Likewise some chardons.

The fruits of this month are, some of the late peaches and plums, grapes, figs, and mulberries, with some filberds and walnuts, and great variety of pears and apples.

The flowers that blow this month are, pansies, amomus, heliotropes, arbutus, single wall-flowers, carnations, stock-gilliflowers, double violets, and the saffron crocus.

N O V E M B E R.

Business of the month.

DR A W up the roots of carrots, parsnips, potatoes, beets, large rooted parsley, &c. lay them in sand, defended from wet and frost, pick

pick off decayed leaves from your cauliflower plants, and draw earth up to the stems of those under bell and hand glasses. Weed your spinach, onions, and other crops sown in July and August.

Sow peas and beans to succeed those of the former month, and draw up earth to the stems of those which are come up. If the weather is mild your cauliflowers and lettuce plants that are in frames, or under glasses, may have some air given them. The ground between your artichokes must be trenched, laying a large ridge of earth over the roots, equal on their sides and tops.

In the Fruit Garden.

It is now proper time to begin pruning pears and plums, especially the dwarfs and those on the espaliers; the vine, of all other works, is the most material to be observed this month. Lay down the branches, particularly such as you would have fruit upon the following year, to be set growing in pots upon a table at great entertainments. The branches for this purpose must be shoots of the same year, and so drawn thro' the hole at the bottom of a garden pot, that when it is filled with earth there may be a reasonable number of eyes or buds above ground. Eight or nine bunches of grapes will grow on a strong branch.

Nurseries for stocks of all sorts of fruit-trees may be made this and the preceding month, as well as in February and March. You cannot easily chuse or make the soil of your nursery for wall-trees too rich, because stocks should be

vigorous. Plant the best plum-suckers, or sow the stones and kernels whereon to raise peaches and apricots, pears and apples.

Trees that are unhealthy may be refreshed by applying new mould to their roots. Let your most delicate stone fruit be covered, to defend them from the severity of the piercing winds. In planting and sowing it is a general rule to sow moderately dry, and plant moist.

Nail the tender branches of fig-trees close to the wall, before the great frosts come on. If the weather be open continue to plant and remove fruit trees.

In the Flower Garden.

Preserve heaps of earth for your severall sorts of flowers, and make the proper mixtures for exotics; observing that where the ground is too stiff it may be brought to a state of loam, by adding to it a sufficient quantity of drift or sea-sand. Tie up all trees and shrubs to stakes, otherwise, by their being loose and at liberty, they will be destroyed by the winds. Cut down the stalks of tall blowing flowers that have done blossoming, within three inches of the root. Roses, jessamines and honeysuckles may be yet transplanted if the weather is open.

Lay down your auricula pots upon their sides, the plants towards the sun, to drain them from moisture, and preserve them from frosts. Give your seeding bulbs daily airings, and keep them sheltered from the frost. Plant hyacinths, and jonquils, and plunge them into hot-beds, to blossom about Christmas.

Manure

Manure of the Month.

Plant currants, gooseberries, apricots, cherries, early peaches, nectaries, &c. against a paling of five feet high, made after the following manner: the stakes to support this paling must be set about four feet distance from each other; to which you must nail whole deal boards of twelve feet long, well jointed to one another, and ploughed on the edge, so as to set in laths, that thereby the steam of the dung, which is to lie at the back, may not get among the plants; because wherever such steam comes it will cause mildews. The deals are to be an inch in thickness; for if they are not quite so thick, the trees will be apt to be scorched upon the first application of the first dung; and if they are thicker, the artificial heat applied to their backs, upon the time it begins to decline, will not be powerful enough to warm them thorough, and then the dung must be often refreshed.

When the paling is up, you are to mark out a border on the south side of it about four feet wide; and on the outside of the border, fasten to the ground in a straight line, some scantlings of wood about four inches thick, to rest glass-lights upon, which are to slope back to the paling for sheltering the fruit, as occasion requires; between these glass-lights must be bars cut out of whole deal, about four inches wide, so made, that the glass-lights may rest in them: these bars must always remain fixed, as in a frame for a hot-bed.

At the end of this frame must be a door shaped to the profile of the frame, to be opened, either the one or the other, as the wind happens to blow, always observing that the door be opened on that side only which is freest from the air.

If a frame of this nature be made in the Summer season, you may plant it the same Summer with fruit-trees, and the trees will take very good root before Winter, and be so well stored with sap against the following Spring, as to shew no sign of their removal, but bear extremely. Besides, by this Summer planting, the trees seldom or never throw away their strength in Autumn shoots, or make any attempt towards it, till September and October, when the frosts prevent their design.

The trees planted must have time allowed for the juices to digest, before you begin to force them: therefore the hot dung is not to be applied to the back of the paling before November. About the middle of this month, or towards the end, is time enough to bring ripe cherries in February; at the same time likewise heat may be used for apricots, so as to make the masculine apricots as large in February as duke cherries, and ripen them the beginning of April. Apricots, tho' forced in the uncommon season, will thrive and prosper well for many years; but our cherries do not bear this alteration in nature so well. Some forward sorts of plums will ripen about the end of April; and the Anne-peach at the same time. The early nectarine being thus forced, would ripen with the masculine apricot. And as to gooseberries, we may have green fruit
fit

fit for
gooseb

In
two o
end o
amon
there
plant
narcis
forcin
the V

T
close
of pl
unde
from
is o
at a
and
agai
fran
tree
con
the
the
ber
till
tre
(ev
abo
an
are

pa
da

fit for tarts in January and February ; and ripe gooseberries and currants in March and April.

In this frame you might also plant a row or two of strawberries, which would ripen at the end of February or beginning of March. And amongst the fruit you may mix here and there a monthly rose-tree ; and have a border planted with early tulips, hyacinths, jonquils, narcissus, and other flowers, which by the forcing heats would make a kind of Summer all the Winter.

The trees planted in these frames must be close to the paling, contrary to the methods of planting again walls ; for the roots will run under the pales, and draw nourishment equally from the earth about them, but with walls it is otherwise. The trees need not be planted at a greater distance than four or five feet : and those that have stood seven or eight years against walls, may be removed to these forcing frames without any danger : As to pruning these trees, the same method is to be followed as recommended for other trees in February ; but the season for doing it is not the same ; for in the forcing frames our Spring begins in November, but in the other case it does not begin till the end of January or February. The trees are to be pruned and nailed to the pales (every branch as close to the pales as may be) about a week before the forcing heat is applied ; and all the glasses, to be put up as soon as they are pruned.

The hot dung to be laid to the back of the pales, ought to be tossed up in an heap some days before it is used, that it may yield a heat every

every where alike : and when it is fit to be applied to the pales, you must lay it four feet wide at the base ; and let it slope to two feet at the top, the height in all being at first within four inches of the top of the pales, and in six weeks time it will sink to about three feet, when you are to apply fresh dung. The first heat does little more than swell the buds of the trees, and bring them to a green colour ; the second forwards their blossoming, and the third brings the fruit to maturity. It helps very much the blossoming of the trees, to cover them with the glass-lights, when frost happens : but no opportunity of showers should be denied them, if the weather be tolerable mild, till the buds begin to stir ; after that, the glasses are to remain over them constantly till the sun begins to have some power. When the sun shines warm, and the wind is not too sharp, give air at the front of your frame ; and if this does not happen during a fortnight's space, then give air at the end, and put up mats or canvas to correct the winds, and cause the air to circulate in the frames.

About three changes of dung will suffice to bring your cherries to ripeness in February, allowing each parcel to remain a month at the back of the pales : but if April proves cold, the forcing heat is to be continued till May, for plums, peaches, nectarines and apricots. Where these forcing frames are kept, the dung, when it has lost its heat, may be laid in heaps to rot for the improvement of land.

Produce of the Month.

The sallads of this month are composed from the small herbs on the hot-bed, with burnet, cabbage-lettuce, cellery, and endive blanched, and young onions. If the cucumber plants that were sown in July have been properly guarded from rain and frosts, they will produce fruit this month. We have cauliflowers and some artichokes in the greenhouse.

The roots we have this month are, carrots, parsneps, turneps, beets, skirrets, horse-radish, potatoes, onions, shalots and rocambole. The herbs and plants for boiling are, cabbages and the spinach.

The dried herbs are, mint, sweet marjoram, and marygold flowers. The pot-herbs are cellery, parsley, sorrel, thyme, savory, beet-leaves, and clary.

Apples and pears of several sorts are now ripe, such as the St. Germain, la chasseree, the ambret, colmar, crissan, and swain's egg ; there are walnuts, medlars, and services. We have likewise some grapes and figs.

The flowers that blow this month are, single anemonies, gentianella, polyanthus, stock-gilliflower, and double violets. We have likewise some carnations in the green house.

DECEMBER.

Business of the Kitchen Garden.

SAVOYS and cabbages which are designed for seed, must be hung up by their stalks in a dry room for a week or ten days : after which plant them down in a warm border almost over their head. Plant each kind at a distance, and cover them with dry straw or peas-haulm if the weather be frosty.

Sow radishes, carrots and lettuce on warm borders for an early crop. Carry dung into the quarters, and spread it on the ground ; trench up the quarters, laying the earth in ridges, that it may be mellowed by the frost. In mild weather uncover your cauliflower plants under frames every day. Earth up cellery as near the tops of the plants as possible.

On the approach of hard frost, cover cellery and endive with fern or straw. If the weather be mild, sow early peas in warm borders about the middle of the month, and in frosty weather cover them with reeds or straw.

In the Fruit Garden.

The principal business to done in the fruit garden this month is the pruning of vines, and those other works which were left unfinished the preceding month.

About the latter end of the month prune and rail wall fruit trees and standards that are hardy ;

dy ; and you may yet set most sort of kernel stones.

Most sort of hardy trees, that shed their leaves in the Winter, may be removed or planted.

You must be attentive to fruit trees in orchards, and such branches as make confusion must be taken away. Cover every considerable wound with a mixture of bees-wax, rosin, and tar, in equal quantities, and of tallow about half the quantity of any of the others ; which are to be melted together in an earthen vessel well glazed, and with a painting brush dipped into it, the wound is to be covered over.

You must now be careful to destroy snails, which harbour in most parts of the garden, but particularly behind the stems of wall trees, where they will be found in great abundance.

In the Flower Garden.

Provide shelter for your tender flowers in the green house, such as choice anemonies and the ranunculus. Take off dead and rotten leaves from your exotic plants. Let your green-house plants have but little water ; and be sure to observe this rule, that aloes, euphorbiums, Indian figs, torch-thistles, and sedums, have not any water given them till the latter end of March.

You must not be over hasty in warming your green house with artificial hearts, but admit as much sun as possible, because as that is a natural heat, they will be better cherished. The principal matter is to keep out frosts, which may be done by covering the windows of your green-house with mats.

As no plant can live without air, it is adviseable, that at the end of your green-house there should be an anti-chamber, through which you are to pass to the house; which chamber will have fresh air from abroad every time you go into it, and on opening the door of it into the green house, the air will there mix with the other that has been pent up, and impregnate it with new parts, by which means it will contribute to the vegetation of plants, without affecting them too suddenly.

The weather being generally severe at the close of this month, those gentlemen that have water-works in their gardens must cover their fountain pipes, and the stone of those works, with stable litter, to preserve them from frosts, which will occasion the stone to crack, and consequently destroy it.

This is the proper time to turn up gravel walks into ridges, in order to destroy the weeds; in which manner they are to continue till April, when they must be laid afresh.

This method of managing our walks at this time of the year, is by many objected against; because, besides being deprived of the benefit of them all the Winter, it doth not answer the end of the practice, but rather the contrary. Turning the walks up in ridges kills indeed the present weeds; but for the very same reason that the husbandman stirs and tills his land, to enrich and fertilize it, so this turning and ridging of walks is a real tillage, and adds fertility to them, to the future increase of grass and weeds.

This considered, if constant rolling, after rains and frost will not effectually kill the moss and weeds

weeds
they m
then tu
But the
gravel
hough
then le
and ro
or wh
row w

A
mont
celler
at Ch
them
In
green
tione
the a
cumb
year
rable
upon
tome
they
ber,
from
gard
ages
as to
New

weeds of your gravel walks, the best way if they must be turned, is to stay till April, and then turn and lay them down at the same time. But the better way is, instead of turning the gravel-walks, to run the top over with a Dutch hough, in the spring of the year, after a frost; then let them lie some time before they are raked and rolled, and that will kill the moss and weeds, or where the walks are very large, a garden harrow will answer the same end.

Work of the month.

A very principal part of the business of this month consists in its being esteemed a greater excellency to produce a single cucumber or cherry at Christmas, than to bring to maturity loads of them in their natural season.

In December and January we may have some green peas, by the help of the forcing frame mentioned in the preceding month, or otherwise by the assistance of hot-beds; and we may have cucumbers fit for the table every month in the year: the common natural cucumbers last tolerable good till the end of August, tho' they run upon the ground; and if we take care to let some cucumber vines run up sticks against walls, they will have very fair fruit till the end of October, but especially if they are covered in the night from frosts; and in November and December a gardener among his cucumber plants, of various ages and degrees of growth, may have fruit set so as to be brought to perfection, and cut down on New-year's-day.

The time for sowing cucumbers for Winter ripening are to be thus observed; begin to sow seed on the natural ground, to transplant them upon a moderate hot-bed the latter end of July, and continue your sowing every week till the latter end of August; and those plants that are sown about the latter end of August, will begin to shew fruit the beginning of October: in September, sow three times, viz. about the ninth, the nineteenth, and the twenty-fifth days of that month; and those sown on the last of those days, will bear fruit fit to be cut the first of January: then you may sow in October, and have a good crop in February, with good management.

To bring cherries in December, it has been practised to pull off all the blossoms of a tree as soon as they were budding out in the Spring, and the tree kept very dry from rains all the Summer; and about the end of July, or in August, giving it gentle waterings, by little and little, about the end of September it has been in full blossom, when glasses are to be kept over it; and at the end of October, if the weather is cold, or beginning of November, dung is to be applied at the back of the pales, and renewed as directed in November for your forcing frames. The morello cherry, which is apt to come late, will hold a long time upon the tree, even till the end of October; and if such trees were sheltered from frosts with mats or glasses, there is no doubt but the fruit will remain a month longer upon the tree; and perhaps till December.

Currants will remain good upon the trees till October, if the bushes are well matted up as soon

soon as the fruit is coloured, but the mats are to be put up in a very dry season. And it is the opinion of many gardeners, that we have many sorts of fruits which will hang upon trees all the year about, and be fair to the eye all that time, if they are kept from the frost: but as it is natural for trees to disburden themselves of the loads of fruit, you are to begin to cover them before they are ripe, otherwise they will be in danger of dropping from the trees.

Besides the paling and frames for ripening of fruit in the Winter, described in the preceding month, some curious gentlemen advise the building of walls with fire-places at the back, at twelve or fourteen feet distance from one another; the flues thereof to be made with various turnings, till you come near the top of the wall, by which means the whole wall may be regularly warmed at once; and these walls are to have frames and glasses in the same manner as used against the paling already treated of. The walls of this kind seem to be justified in the observation I have made, that a vine, or other fruit tree, planted against a chimney, where a fire is constantly kept, or against the back of an oven frequently used, will shoot and ripen its fruit much earlier than in any exposure to the sun against a common wall; which plainly shews fruit may be forced by fire.

Black and white grapes, with other sorts of fruit, have been ripe in April, by being planted against a fire-wall.

And not only fruit, but plants of all kinds, may be forced by fire as well as dung: for there is a way for making a hot-bed by means of fire; for

the use of those gardeners who have not an opportunity of getting horse-dung. This hot-bed is thus managed; you are to make a frame of brick-work of any length, but as wide only as a common hot-bed, to have a fire-place at one end, to pass into a flue, which is to wind from side to side, till it reaches the other end, and discharges its smoak by a chimney; the top of these flues may be covered with square tiles, and when the intermediate spaces between the flues are filled with coarse sand, cover the whole with square tiles, and raise the wall about ten inches above the pavement, so that you may cover the pavement as deep with sand, if there be occasion; then upon the sand place such frames as are generally used for hot-beds, to hold the earth in them, and that the earth may receive the heat of the sand. This bed, by the heat of the flues, when the fire is lighted, may be made as useful as any hot-bed, and may be less troublesome, and more lasting.

Produce of the month.

We have this month in the green-house several trees and shrubs in flower, viz, laurus tinus, Glassonbury thorn, geranium, thlapi, semper-birens, jessamines of several kinds, ficoides, and aloes. The following are now in fruit; the arbutus, or strawberry tree, amonum plinii, orange, lemon, citron, olive, and the pomegranate.

We have in the conservatory some artichokes preserved in the sand. There are several sorts of cabbages, and their sprouts, for boiling; asparagus upon hot-beds; and if diligence has been used,

used,
which

W
small
bage-
cresses
which
To th
dive.

Th
kitch
parsle
of yo
dried
roots
toes.

Th
except
but f
partic
colm

Th
moni
prim
acon
cissu

used, you may find some cucumbers, or the plants which were sown in July and August.

We have this month on the hot-bed sallads of small herbs, with mint, tarragon, burnet, cabbage-lettuce preserved under glasses, and some cresses and chervil upon the natural ground, with which high taste helps the sallads of this season. To these may be added blanched cellery and endive.

There are variety of herbs for soups and the kitchen use, such as sage, thyme, beet-leaves, parsley, sorrel, spinach, cellery, and leeks; tops of young peas, &c. Likewise sweet marjoram, dried marygold flowers, and dried mint. The roots are, carrots, parsnips, turneps, and potatoes.

The fruit garden produces little this month, except pears and apples; of the latter we have but few, tho' there are yet plenty of the former, particularly of the St. Germain, ambret, and the colmar.

The flowers we have this month are single anemones, stock-gilliflowers, single wall-flowers, primroses, snow-drops, black hellebore, Winter aconite, polyanthus; and in hot-beds, the narcissus and hyacinth.

of every side, with such houses as may be fitted for them, but they should be situated with a brick wall that is solid, in order to keep the wind from coming thro' it, as well as over it, that place being best for them when it is most exposed to the south, and where they have the best opportunity to bask in their heat, when they come laden home.

You should likewise plant several trees and shrubs at a reasonable distance, near home, in order

The Compleat Bee-Master ;

OR

*Best Method of managing BEES, as
well for profit as pleasure.*

THESE little insects are no less to be valued for the profits of their labour, than the trifling expence and trouble attendant on them, there being no wood nor forest, no fruit nor flower, but what contributes to their daily toil : nor are they at any time idle, but in very cold or wet weather.

The most convenient place to make choice of for your apiary, or bee-garden, is near the house, that you may the better look after them in swarming time. It must be securely fenced from all sorts of cattle, especially hogs, and from all sorts of fowl, whose dung is very prejudicial to them.

They must be well defended from high winds on every side, with such fences as may let the sun come to them : but they should be sheltered with a brick wall that is solid, in order to keep the wind from coming thro' it, as well as over it ; that place being best for them which is most exposed to the south, and where they have the best opportunity to settle at their hives, when they come laden home.

You should likewise plant several trees and shrubs at a reasonable distance, near home, for them

them to pitch on at their swarming, that they may not be in danger of being lost for want of a light-place. Limes, phillyreas, sycamore-trees, and firs, are particularly good to be planted near them, because they draw a great deal of honey and wax from their flowers.

Having fitted the place, the seats to set the hives on are to be provided, which must be set a little shelving, that the rain may neither run into the hive, nor lay about the door.

It is better to avoid setting any hives on a bench; because in Winter it may cause the bees to fight, by going in each other's houses, which they may sometimes mistake for their own; and therefore some esteem single stools best, which are to be set at about two feet distance from one another, and to be supported with four legs, about twelve or fourteen inches from the ground. They should not be above half an inch, or an inch, bigger than the hive, save only before, where there ought to be the space of three or four inches, that the bees may have room enough to light upon it. The best stools are of wood; those of stone are too cold in Winter, and too hot in Summer. The stools should be set towards the south, or rather a point or two to the West, that the hive may somewhat break the east wind from the door, and stand in straight rows from west to east.

There is another method made use of, which is, to make for every hive of bees you intend to keep, a cot or house of about two feet square, and two feet and an half high, set on four legs, about ten inches above ground, and five or six inches within the ground,
and

and covered with boards or tiles, to cast off the rain; the back, or north side, being closed up very close, and the east and west sides to have doors to open and shut at pleasure, with hasps to them, and at the face, or south side, to have a falling door, that may come about half way down, which is to be elevated at pleasure, and serves in Summer for a penthouse, not only to beat off the rain from the hives, but to defend them from the extreme heat of the sun, which is apt to melt their honey. The other lower half should have two small doors to open to either hand, which will serve to defend the holes of the hives from injurious winds. When the Winter approaches, and the cold winds are like to injure the bees, you may then fasten all the doors, which will defend the bees from the extreme of heat and cold, both which are injurious to them.

If you find them to stand too cold in Winter, you may put straw within the doors, to keep them warm; but the extremity of cold don't injure them so much as wet, which these cases best preserve them from. They likewise prevent the bees getting abroad upon every sunshine day, because the hives stand six or eight inches within the door which make them dark, and the bees insensible of the small heat; when, after the common way of stools or benches, the sun casts its rays to their doors; which light and warmth together excites them forth, to the expence of their provision, and the loss of their lives, as is evident by frequent experience; the mildest and the clearest Winters destroying, or starving, the most bees; whereas the coldest and most frosty Winters best preserve them.

As

As soon as the willow blossoms appear, you may open the under doors, that the light, and warmth of the sun and air, may encourage them to work, or else you will hinder their early breeding, and make them slothful.

There are various sorts of hives used in several countries, but those mostly used in England are wicker hives, made of previt; willow or harl, daubed with cow dung, tempered with dust, ashes, or sand; or hives made with straw bound with brambllets; some out of curiosity, that they may see the bees work, have them made of wood or glass, but they are so cold that the bees do not thrive well in them. Others have placed double hives one by another, and some upon the tops of others; that so, by the taking of one of them away, they may leave the other for the bees, without driving or killing of them; but as these experiments are seldom brought to perfection, 'tis needless to say much about them.

The warmest and best hives are those made of straw, the bigness of which should be of between five or seven gallons, of a round form, rather broad than high: but you ought to have of each size, that you may suit your swarms to them according as they are bigger or lesser; and where you design to multiply your stock, make use of small hives, and of the larger where you desire a great deal of honey. Having thus made your hives, you must dress them after the following manner; take off all the staring straws, twigs, and jags, that are offensive in the hive, and make them as smooth as possible. If you need but few hives, you may prune them with a knife;
if

if many, finge and rub them with a peice of brimstone.

Having pruned your hive, put in your spleets, three or four of them, as the largeness of your hive shall require: the upper ends whereof set together at the top of the hive, and the lower fasten about a handful above the skirts. Besides these spleets, the straw hive should have four other spleets driven up into the skirts, to keep the hive from sinking when it is loaded; two of which are the two door-posts, the other two are hind posts, set at a equal distances.

The hives you intend to use in swarming time must be rubbed with sweet herbs, as thyme, balm, savoury, marjoram, fennel, hyssop, bean-tops, &c. and when the swarm is settled, take a branch of the tree whereon they pitch, and wipe the hive clean with it, and wet the inside of the hive with honey, mead, salt and water, small beer, or honey, and milk, or sugar and milk.

Again, your hives must be kept close for defence of your bees, first, from the cold, by mixing of cow dung with lime or ashes, and with sand, with which you must stop up the edges of the hive round, and against Winter put a wicket of a small piece of wood, in which are three or four notches, cut just big enough for the bees to go in and out at, that no vermin may get to them.

If the Spring be mild, calm, and showering, it is good for swarms, and they will be the earlier; but if it proves a cold, dry, windy Spring, then there will be but few swarms, and those also backward. There are the most swarms

swarm
ther.

Yo
the m
serve
cede
watch
the hi
swarm
they l
about
ings,
the st
up an
ings
air is

In
to ris
show
toget
ther
stool
them
befor
if the

W
the
ward
of n
taken
empt
they

It
will
ready

swarms and greatest plenty of honey in dry weather.

You must begin too look after them, about the middle of May in an early Spring, and observe what you can of the usual signs that precede their swarming, that you may be the more watchful over those that require it. When the hives are full (before which they will never swarm) they will cast out their drones, although they be not quite grown, and the bees will hover about the doors. In cold evenings and mornings, there will be a moisture or sweating upon the stool, and they will continually be running up and down hastily, and lie out in sultry evenings and mornings, and go in again when the air is clear.

In warm and calm weather, the bees delight to rise; but especially in a hot gleam, after a shower or gloomy cloud hath sent them home together. Then sometimes they gather together without at the door, not only upon the stool, but the hive also; where when you see them begin to hang in swarming-time, and not before, you may be sure they will presently rise, if the weather holds.

When the bees lie forth continually under the stool, or behind the hive, especially towards the middle of June, 'tis a sign or cause of not swarming; for when they have once taken to lie forth, the hive will always seem empty, as though they wanted company, and they will then have no inclination to swarm.

It is stormy and windy weather also that will not suffer them to swarm, when they are ready, and that makes them lie out; for the longer

ger they lie out, the more unwilling they are to swarm.

In order to make them swarm, some keep the hives as cool as may be, by watering and shadowing both them and the place where they stand, and then enlarging of the door to give them air, they move the cluster gently with their brush and drive them in.

If yet they lie out and swarm not, then the next calm warm day about noon, while the sun shineth, put in the better part with your brush, and the rest gently sweep away from the stool, not suffering them to cluster again. These rising in the calm and heat of the sun, by their noise, as though they were swarming, will make the others come forth perhaps unto them, and so they may swarm.

Many other ways have been attempted to cause bees to swarm, as by placing a large pewter platter under the cluster of bees as they hang out in the heat of the sun, so that it may strongly reflect the heat upon them, which will provoke them to swarm.

If neither of these methods should succeed, but that they lie forth still, then rear the hive enough, to let them in, and cloom up the skirts all but the door: if this has not the desired effect there is no remedy.

The signs of after-swarms are more certain. When the prime swarm is gone, about the eight or tenth evening after, when another brood is ready, and again hath over filled the hive, in the morning before they swarm they will come down near the stool, and there they call one another, and at the time of swarming they descend to the stool, where answering one
ano-

ano
shri
hall
I
both
nex
a f
som
year
V
to m
but
and
like
mak
V
ing
ther
and
then
hive
the
rath
and
direc
T
of g
there
bees
hive
the
hous
or cl
bette
If
unde

another in more earnest manner with thick and shriller notes, the multitude come forth in great haste, &c.

If the prime swarm be broken, the second will both cast and swarm the sooner; it may be the next day, and after that a third, and sometimes a fourth, but all usually within a fortnight; sometimes also a swarm will cast another that year.

When the swarm is risen, 'tis the usual custom to make a noise with a pan, kettle, mortar, &c. but some reckon it an insignificant ceremony, and others esteem it prejudicial. But if they are like to be gone, cast dust or sand among them to make them come down.

When they have made a choice of a lighting place, you will quickly see them knit together into a cluster; when they are fully settled, and the cluster hath been a while at the biggest, then hive them. And having in store several hives of various sizes, make choice of one that the bees may go near to fill it that year, but rather under-hive a swarm than over-hive them, and rub the hive with sweet herbs, as it is before directed.

The man that hives them must drink a cup of good beer, and wash his hands and face therewith, or being otherwise defended; if the bees hang upon a bough, shake them into the hive, and set the same upon a mantle or cloth on the ground, as is usual; or you may cut off the bough, if it be small, and lay it on the mantle or cloth, and set the hive over it, which is the better way.

If they light near the ground, lay your cloth under them, and shake them down, and place

K

the

the hive over them ; and such bees as gather together without the hive, wipe them gently with your brush towards the hive ; and if they take to any other place than to the hive, wipe them off gently with your brush, and rub the place with wormwood, nettles, may-weed, &c. Then set the swarm as soon as you can to the lighting place till all be quiet, every one knowing his own house.

If the swarms separate, and light in sight of one another, let alone the greater, and disturb the lesser part, and they will fly to their fellows : but if not in sight, hive them both in two separate hives, and bring them together, shaking the bees out of one hive on the mantle whereon the other hive stands, and place the other full hive on them, and they will all take to it.

If your swarm should happen to come late after the middle of June, and that they are small, under the quantity of a peck ; then put two or three of them together, whether they rise the same day, or in divers ; for by this uniting they will labour carefully, and gather store of honey, and stoutly defend themselves against all enemies. The manner of uniting them is thus.

When it grows dusk in the evening, having spread a mantle on the ground, near unto the stool, where this united swarm stands, set a pair of rests, for two supporters for the hive ; knock down the hive out of which you intend to remove your bees upon the rest : then lift up the hive a little, and clapping it between your hands to get out the bees, set the flock to the swarm to which you would add them, upon the rest or supporters over them, and they will
forth

forth
main
hast
have
early
stool
M
whe
inter
skirt
upon
towa
and
mor
thus
ther
ing,
com
ther
I
as w
way
sma
and
over
you
see v
so o
len
I
pull
a p
'war
and
dure
afte

forthwith ascend into the hive ; those that remain in the empty hive, by clapping it, will hasten after their companions. When you have got them all, either that night, or early the next morning, place the hive on the stool, &c.

Many people think it better to place the hive wherein you have newly put your swarm you intend to drive into another, in a place that the skirts may be uppermost, and set the other upon it, binding them about the skirts with a towel. Then let them stand till the morning, and the bees will ascend, that you may the next morning set the receiver on the stool : and thus you may put three or four swarms together ; but observe to unite them the same evening, or the next at farthest, lest having made combs, they are the more unwilling to part from them.

It is good in all respects, to defend one's self, as well as may be, against their stings ; the surest way of doing which is to have a net knit with small meshes, that a bee cannot get through ; and of a fine thread or silk, large enough to come over your hat, and to lie down to the collar of your doublet, through which you may perfectly see what you do, without any danger, having also on your hands a good pair of gloves ; if woollen the better.

If a bee should happen to catch you unawares, pull out the sting as soon as you can ; and take a piece of iron, and heat it in the fire ; or for want of that, take a live coal, and hold it as near and as long to the place as you can possibly endure it, and it will attract the fiery venom ; and afterwards anoint it with some honey or mithridate

or if you take a little spittle and wet it, it will cure it.

When a swarm has entered its hive, they immediately (if the weather will permit) gather wax, and build combs ; and in a few days time there will be compleat combs. They lie so thick about them, that it is impossible one quarter of them can be employed at once, untill the combs are brought to a considerable length, and then a great part of them may be employed in filling them, and the rest in finishing their cells or combs.

Towards the end of Summer, their number begins to lessen ; for in their prosperity at swarming time ; and shortly after, they are far more in number than in the Autumn or Winter, as you may easily discern between the quantity and number of a swarm, and those you kill when you take them ; for the bees of the last year's breed do now by degrees waste and perish by their extraordinary labour, their wings decay and fail them ; so that a year, with some advantage, is the usual age of a bee, and the young only of the last Spring survive, and preserve the kind till the next.

There are several things that are injurious to bees, and will much hinder their prosperity, if not prevented.

1. Noise, which may in part be remedied by the situation of the apiary, free from the noise of carts, coaches, bells, echoes, &c.

2. Smoak, where land hath been burn-beaten near unto an apiary, and the wind hath brought the smoak towards it, a great many of the bees have been killed ; which is the reason they will not thrive in or near great towns.

3. Disagreeable smells are very offensive to them.

4. Bad weather, as wind, rain, cold, heat, &c. which is prevented by the situation and fencing of the apiary, and ordering the stock as before.

5. The mice, birds, and other devouring creatures, which are to be destroyed.

6. Noisome creatures, as toads, frogs, snails, spiders, moths, ants, &c. which you must endeavour to keep from them, and cleanse also the hives ever anon from these vermin.

7. Hornets and wasps, in such years wherein they abound, prove great enemies to the bees, by robbing them of their honey : they are destroyed by placing near the door of the hive a glass phial half full of beer, cyder, or any such thing ; if some sugar be added to it, it will do the better.

8. Bees themselves prove the greatest enemies both by fighting and robbing. Several occasions provoke the bees to fight : which, if the battle be only newly begun, may be hindred by stopping up the hive close ; but if they be gone so far that most of the bees are out, the casting of dust among them was the ancient way.

The best time to remove an old stock is a little before, or a little after Michaelmas ; or, if you have overslipt that time, then about the end of February, or beginning of March, before they go much abroad, lest it prevent their swarming. You may remove them at any time in the Winter, but not so well as in the forementioned season.

The best time of the day to do it is in the evening, next after hiving, if the weather be

fair, and do it in the evening when the bees are quiet ; the best way of doing of which is thus :

Take a board about the breadth of the bottom of the hive you intend to remove, and in the evening, or two or three evenings before, lift it up, and brush the bees that are on the stool forward, and let the board be a little supported by two ledges, to prevent the death of the bees on the stool. On this board set the stock, and so let them stand till you remove them. When you come to move them, stop up the door of the hive, and set the board whereon the hive standeth, on a hand barrow, and carry them to the place you intend.

The feeding of bees is of little use ; first, because the bees that have not a profitable stock of honey to serve them over the Winter, are not fit to keep ; and then, because they that are bee-masters, and have not care enough of them to keep them from spending of that stock they have in Winter-time, must not expect to reap any considerable advantage by them ; and it may be presumed will never take so much pains and care as is required in feeding of them. But as

There are some stocks of bees in the spring time, that may seem worthy of our care to preserve, viz. such as have but a small stock of honey, and a good quantity of bees, by means of a cold, dry, unseasonable Spring, cannot make such timely provision as in other years they might have done, yet in all probability may prove an excellent stock, and may be worth our assistance.

Food may be afforded to them several ways, but

but the best is by small canes or troughs conveyed into their hives, into which you may put the food you give them. The chief time of feeding them is in March, when they begin to breed, and to sit on their young ones, which must be daily continued till the Spring season afford them ease and provision abroad, because at that time their combs are full of young bees.

About the middle of August weigh your hives, and take the heaviest ; and the lightest, if they do not weigh 14 pounds, will hardly maintain themselves over Winter.

Of all food, honey is the best and most natural, which will go farther, if it is mixed well with a moderate proportion of good sweet-wort. Some prescribe toasts of bread sopped in strong ale, and put into the bee-hive, whereof they will not leave one crumb remaining. Some also advise to put in the hive dry meat, or flour of beans ; others, bay salt, roasted apples, &c. which are very good especially salt ; which, if some were mixed with water, and always set near them, it might do well, it being certain, that bees near the sea always thrive the best ; which some attribute to their drinking of salt water, they flying (say some) many miles to get it.

It is again proposed for the improvement of bees, to take a handful of baum, one dram of camphires half a dram of musk dissolved in rosemary, as much yellow bees-wax as is sufficient, oil of roses much, stamp the baum and camphire very well, and put them in the melted wax with the oil of roses, and so make it up into a mass, letting it cool before you put in the musk, for otherwise the heat will fume away most of the scent.

Take

Take of this mass so much as a hazle-nut, and leave it within the bee-hive ; it will (as he says) much increase the number of the bees, and you will also find both honey and wax, three times of more profit than otherwise you would have had.

A great thing to advance your bees is the having of fields near you sowed with brand, cole-seed, or turneps, from which they will draw great quantities of honey. Beans also are very good for them.

As the chief aim of the keeper of bees is an advantage by their honey and wax ; so many have endeavoured to find out some way to reap the profits of bees without destroying them. One way that has been used for this purpose is driving them after this manner.

In September, or in any other time after they have done breeding (else the honey will be corrupted by the young bees in the combs) place the hive you intend to take with the bottom upwards between three or four stakes, and set the hive you intend to drive the bees into, over the same, as before directed in the uniting of swarms ; then often clap the under hive between your hands in the evening ; and so let them stand till morning, and then clap it again, and get as many bees out as you can, which will repair to the other hive.

This way is something troublesome to the un-experienced, yet beneficial in such cases where you have a great stock of honey and few bees in one hive, and a small stock of honey in another, by which means you save the lives of your bees, which will gladly exchange their hungry habitation for a more plentiful.

But

But
signs
ther
mon
killin
ly w
ble f
food
guft
keep
to k
and
their
and
that
to c
swar
floc
and
thof
fufp
dela
year
two
out
laft
ther
good
ther
I
five
ing
fort
hea
I
of

But these ways have altogether failed the designs of the undertakers, as I said before ; and therefore I shall at present only describe the common usage, which is the taking of combs by killing the bees, which certainly must be the only way of ordering them, because it is impossible for them to live, if you deprive them of their food ; and therefore, about the latter end of August, consider with yourself what stalls you will keep, and what you will kill. The best swarms to keep are those of one or two years standing ; and those of three or four, which, by reason of their swarming the last Summer, are full of bees, and are the most likely to be best ; but those of that age which have cast hives, not being likely to continue, are to be taken, as are also poor swarms not worth their feeding, and all light stocks, and such as do not carry out their dross, and drive away the drones in good time ; also those whom the robbers easily assault, are to be suspected ; and if their combs be once broken, delay not their taking : and also all stalls of three years old, or upward, that have missed swarming two years together, especially those that have lain out the Summer before, and did not cast the last Summer, for such do seldom prosper ; and therefore it is better to take them while they are good, than in a vain hope of increase to keep them till they perish.

It is not safe to trust to any after they have stood five years and upwards, that have missed swarming two years together, unless it be some special sort of bees, which always keep themselves in heart ; such may be kept nine or ten years.

Likewise, if you have any that are very full of honey, as in some years they will be, even
down

down to the stool, such stall is worth three or four, and therefore take them in their season.

Having made choice of your stalls to be taken, two or three hours before sun-setting dig a hole in the ground about nine inches deep, and almost as wide as the hive skirts, laying the small earth round about the brims, then having a little stick slit at one end, and stripped at the other, take a brimstone match five or six inches long, and about the bigness of your little finger, and making it fast in the slit, stick it in the middle or side of the hole, so that the top of the match may stand even with the brim of the pit, or within one inch of it, and then set another by it dressed after the same manner, if the first be not sufficient. When you have fired the matches at the upper end, set over the hive, and presently shut it close at the bottom with the small earth, that none of the smoak may come forth, so shall you have the bees dead in a quarter of an hour.

The hive being taken and housed, lay it softly on the ground upon the sides, not the edges of the combs, and loosen the ends of the splints with your finger, and the edges of the combs where they stick to the sides of the hive, with a wooden slice, take them out one after another, and having wiped off the half dead bees with a good feather, break the combs presently, while they are warm, into three parts.

The honey which first flows of itself from the combs is called Virgin honey, as is also the honey which comes from the first year's swarm. This is the best and finest honey, being more chrySTALLINE, and of a finer taste, than that which is squeezed out of the combs, and so may be kept for particular uses, or for making of the finest mead.

I shall conclude at present with giving you some account of the way of ordering your honey and wax, with the virtues of them, that you may be the more sensible of the advantages that accrue to mankind by this small insect.

When your combs have run out as much as they will, put it up warm into pots by itself, this being the finest honey, as I said before, and it will for two or three days work up a scum of coarse wax, dross, and other stuff, which must be taken off. The other honey, which is the coarser sort, you must get from the combs by pressing them, which you may also pot, except what you design for the present to make metheglin with; which being done, what remains put into a hair bag, and wash in a trough, or other vessel, to make mead or metheglin; and when the sweetness is all washed out, being crushed dry, try the balls for wax.

The manner of ordering, which is as followeth.

Take the wax and dross, and set it over the fire in a kettle, or other vessel, that may easily contain it, and pour in as much water as will make the wax swim, that it may boil without burning, and for this reason, while it is gently boiling over the fire, stir it often; when it is thoroughly melted, take it off the fire, and presently pour it out of the kettle into a strainer of fine thin linnen, or of twisted hair, ready placed upon a screw or press, lay on the cover, and press out the liquor (as long as any wax comes) into a kettle of cold water, but first wet both the bag, and the press, to keep the wax from sticking; at the first cometh most water, at the last most dross, and in the middle most wax.

The

The wax growing hard, make it into balls, squeezing out the water with your hand ; which when you have done, break all the balls into crumbs, and in a kettle or skillet set it over a gentle fire ; while it is melting, stir it, and skim it with a spoon wet in cold water, and as soon as it is melted and scummed clean, take it off, and pour it into a pan or mould, besmearing the bottom and side, first with honey (the wax being as cool as it will run thro' a linen strainer :) when you come near the bottom, pour it gently, till you see the dross come, which strain into some other thing by itself, and when it is cold, either try it again, or (having pared away the bottom) keep it for use.

When the wax is in the pan or mould, if there is any froth remaining on the top, blow it together at one side, and skim it off gently with a wet spoon. This done, set not the cake abroad where it may cool too hastily, but put it in a warm house not far from the fire, and if it be a large cake, cover it warm, to keep the top from cooling till the inward heat be allayed, and so let it stand, not moving it till the cake be cold ; if it stick, warming the vessel or mould a little will loosen it, so that it will presently slip out.

The properties of good wax are, that it is yellow, odoriferous or sweet, fat, fast or close, light, pure, being void of any other matter. 'Tis always a ready money commodity, especially English wax, which is much better than foreign, and commonly sells for about five or six pounds a hundred, it being of extraordinary use both in chirurgery and physick, besides the use that is made of it for lights, the clearness and sweetness

ness
forts.

A
reck
dry a
and
resol
swall
curd

Its
be t
stitch
heale
only
ing a
of ha
there
if yo
will
loins
of co
H
or us
doth
the b
fore
break
the h
ness
rishe
it pr
rupte
fician
they

It
or dr

ness of which makes it preferred before all other sorts.

As to its chirurgical or physical virtues, it is reckoned a mean between hot and cold, between dry and moist, being the ground of all scarcloths and salves ; it mollifies the sinews, ripens and resolveth ulcers ; the quantity of a pea being swallowed down by nurses, dissolveth the milk curdled in the breast.

Its oil is of excellent virtue to cure wounds, be they never so large or deep (being before stitched up) in ten or twelve days at the most, and healeth small wounds in three or four days, by only anointing the wound therewith, and applying a cloth wet in the same, stayeth the shedding of hair, either to the head or face, by anointing therewith. And it is good for inward diseases, if you give one dram at a time in white wine, it will provoke urine, help stitches and pains in the loins, the cold gout, and all other griefs coming of cold.

Honey is little inferior, either as to its benefit or usefulness ; it is of subtil parts, and therefore doth pierce as oil, and easily passes the parts of the body ; it hath a power to cleanse, and therefore it openeth obstructions, and cleareth the breast and lungs of those humours that fall from the head : it looseneth the belly, purges the foulness of the body, and provoketh urine ; it nourisheth very much, and breedeth good blood : it prolongeth life, and keepeth all thing uncorrupted, which it is put into ; and therefore physicians do temper therewith such medicines as they design to keep long.

It is good for such as have eaten mushrooms, or drank poppies ; it is an eminent ingredient in

the great antidotes of treacle and mithridate, and is good against pleurisies, phthisicks, and other diseases of the lungs. But it is for any distemper much better to be taken clarified than raw, it being thereby made more nourishing, lighter of digestion, and less laxative, as also less sharp. &c.

*The whole Art and Method of breeding
and rearing FOWLS, DUCKS, GEESE,
TURKIES, PIGEONS and RABBITS.*

F O W L S.

THE country yard cannot be said to be compleat, till well stocked with fowl, whose advantage will appear to every one who keep them. The poorest villager may reap the same benefit from the products as the most substantial farmer, they being able to shift for themselves the greatest part of the year, by their feeding on insects, corn, or any thing almost that is edible by any sort of animal.

I shall not enter into a minute description of the several sorts of cocks and hens, only advise you to chuse those that are the best breeders, and the best layers; the oldest being always reckoned the best sitters, and the youngest the best layers; but no sort will be good for either, if they are kept too fat; the best age to set a hen for chickens, is from two years old to five, and the best month to set them is February; though any month between that and Michaelmas is good.

good. A hen sits twenty days, whereas geese, ducks and turkeys, sit thirty. Observe to let them have constantly meat and drink near them while they sit, that they may not straggle from their eggs and chill them.

One cock will serve ten hens.

It fowls are set with buck or French-wheat, or with hemp seed, it is said they will lay more eggs than ordinary ; and buck wheat, either whole or ground, made into paste, which is the best way, is a grain that will fatten fowls or hogs very speedily ; but the common food used is barley meal with milk or water, but wheat flour is better moistened.

A good hen should not differ from the nature of the cock ; she should be working, vigilant and laborious, both for herself and her chickens ; in size the biggest and largest are the best, every proportion answerable to those of the cock, only instead of a comb, she should have upon her crown, a high thick tuft of feathers.

She should have many and strong claws ; but it will be better if she has no hinder claws, because they often break the eggs, and besides, such as have, do sometimes prove unnatural.

Crowing hens are neither good layers nor good breeders.

The elder hens are rather to be chosen for hatching than the younger, because they are more constant, and will sit out their time ; but if you chuse for laying, take the youngest, because they are lusty, and prone to generation ; but do not choose a fat hen for either of these purposes ; for if she be set, she will forsake her nest ; the eggs she lay will be without shells, and besides, she will grow slothful and lazy.

Those eggs that are laid when the hens are a year and a half, or two years old, are the best; you must at that time give the hens plenty of victuals, and sometimes oats with funegreek to heat them, if you would have large eggs; for those that are fat commonly lay but small ones; mix some chalk with their food, or mix some bruised brick with their bran, moistened with a little water; and give them their belly full of half boiled barley, with vetch and millet.

Some hens have the ill faculty of eating their eggs; to prevent this, take out the white of an egg, and put moist plaister round about the yolk, and suffer it to grow hard; and when the hen attempts to eat it, and finds she cannot do it, she will soon give over breaking her eggs.

You may likewise pour a clear plaister upon the yolk of an egg, and let it harden, so that it may serve for a shell, and put it into the nest; or you may shape an egg of plaister, or chalk, and let that be for a nest egg.

Those hens that have spurs often break their eggs, and generally will not hatch them, and they will sometimes eat them; these must be scoured as well as those that scratch and crow like a cock; first, by plucking their great quills out of their wings, and by feeding them with millet, barley and paste, cut into bits, pounded acorns and bran, with pottage, or crumbs of wheat bread, steeped in water or barley meal.

Keep them in a close place, and at rest, and pull the feathers from their heads, thighs and rumps. If a hen be too fat, or has a looseness, she will lay windy eggs.

A hen will sit well from the second year of her laying, to the fifth : the best time to set a hen, that the chickens may be large and most kindly, is in February, in the increase of the moon, that she may disclose the chickens in the increase of the next new moon, being in March ; for one brood of this month's chickens is worth three of those of any other month.

Hens may set from March to October, and have good chickens, but not after that time, for the Winter is a great enemy to their breeding.

A hen sits just twenty-one days, and if you set a hen upon the eggs of ducks, geese or turkies, you must set them nine days before you put her owo eggs to her, of which a hen will cover nineteen ; but always set an odd egg, what number soever you set her with.

It will also be proper to marke one side of the eggs, when you put them under the hen, and to observe whether she turns them from the one side to the other, and if she does not, then take an opportunity when she is from them to turn them yourself. But a hen that does not turn them herself is of the less value.

Take care that the eggs you set a hen on be new, which may be known by their being heavy, full and clear, which may be known by looking through them in the sun ; nor do you choose the largest, for they have oftentimes two yolks, and tho' some are of opinion that such will produce two chickens, it proves commonly a mistake, and if they do, they generally prove abortive and monstrous.

A hen must not be taken off or disturbed from
L 3
her

her nest, for that will make her utterly forsake it.

While she is sitting, you may place her meat and water near her, that her eggs may not cool, while she is gone to seek her food. If she should be absent from her nest, stir up the straw, and make it soft and handsome, and lay the eggs in the same order she left them:

It is very necessary to perfume her nest with rosemary or brimstone, and you must take care that the cock does not come at the eggs and set upon them, for he will endanger the breaking of them, and cause the hen not to like her nest so well as before.

When hens are laying, the old straw should be taken away, and fresh put in, that it may not breed fleas, or other vermin, which much incommodes them.

The maladies incident to hens are as follows ;

Setting hens are sometimes troubled with lice and vermin : for the cure, pound burnt cummin and stapnisgar, of each equal quantities, and mix it with wine, and rub the hens with it, or wash them with a decoction of wild lupines.

If hens are troubled with a looseness, mix a handful of barley meal, and as much wax, in some wine, make it into a mass, and give it them in the morning before they have any other meat, or else let them drink a decoction of apples or quinces.

Hens, by laying too many eggs, sometimes exhaust their strength and languish : the same likewise happens by hens sitting too long ; to remedy this, take the white of an egg, which you must roast till it looks as if it was burnt ;

burnt; mix this with an equal quantity of dried raisins, also burnt, and give the hens this fasting.

Your hen-house must be large and spacious, with a pretty high roof and strong walls, to keep out both thieves and vermin; let there be windows on the east side, that they may enjoy the benefit of the rising sun, strongly lathed and close shut; upwards and round about the insides of the walls upon the ground, should be made large pens of three foot high, for geese, ducks and large fowls to set in, and near unto the evings of the house should be long perches, reaching from one side of the house to the other, on which should set cocks, hens, capons and turkies, each on several perches, as they are disposed.

At another side of the house, at the darkest part over the ground pens, fix hampers full of straw for nests, in which hens should lay their eggs; but when they sit to hatch chickens, then let them sit on the ground, otherwise it will be dangerous.

Also let there be pins stuck in the walls, that the poultry may climb to their perches with the greater ease.

The floor must not be paved, but made of earth smooth and easy. Let the smaller fowl have a hole made at one end of the house, to go in and come out at when they please, or else they will seek out roosts in other places; but of larger fowl, you may open the door morning and evening.

It would be the better if this hen-house was situated near some kitchen, brew-house, bakehouse, or kiln, where it may have the heat

heat of the fire, and be perfumed with smoak, which is to pullets both delightful and wholesome.

As soon as your chickens are hatched, if any be weaker than the rest, wrap them in wool, and let them have the heat of the fire; it will also be very good to perfume them with rosemary; the first hatched chickens may be kept in a sieve till the rest are disclosed, for they will not eat for two days; some shells being harder than others, they will require so much more time in opening; but unless the chickens are weak, or then unkind, it will not be amiss to let them continue under her, for she will nourish them kindly.

When they are two days old, give them very small oatmeal, some dry, and some steeped in milk, or else crumbs of fine white bread; and when they have gained strength, curds, cheese parings, white bread, crusts soaked in drink or milk, barley meal, or wheaten bread scalded, or the like soft meat, that is small and will be easily digested.

It is necessary to keep them in the house for a fortnight, and not suffer them to go abroad with the hen to worm. Green chives chopped among their meat is very good, and will preserve them from the rye or other diseases in the head, and never let them want clear water, for puddle water will be apt to give them the pip.

Nor must you let them feed upon tares, dandel, or cockle, for these are very dangerous to young ones, nor let them go into gardens till they are six weeks old.

If you would have them crammed, coop them up when the dam has forsaken them, and cram them

ther
mill
the
cho
T
not
and
but
I
chic
but
A
fat
bre
I
ther
mea
dust
be v
to
in t
and
call
fooc
the
ston
offic
kind
eat
may
cha
ston
ing

them with dough made of wheaten meal and milk, which dip in milk, and thrust down their throats, but let them not be too big, lest they choak them ; they will be fat in a fortnight.

To distinguish whether a chicken is good or not. After a chicken is killed it will be stiff and white, and firm in the vent, if new killed ; but tender, and green in the vent, if stale.

If you rub your finger on the breast of a scalded chicken, if it be new killed it will feel rough ; but, if stale, slippery and slimy.

A crammed chicken, if it be fat, will have a fat rump, and a fat vein upon the side of the breast of her, like a pullet.

In order to fatten chickens, you must put them into coops, and feed them with barley meal ; put likewise a small quantity of brick-dust into their water, which they ought never to be without : this last will give them an appetite to their meat, and fatten them very soon ; for in this case it must be considered, that all fowls and birds have two stomachs, as they may be called, the one is their crop, that softens their food, and the other the gizzard, that macerates the food, in the last we always find small stones and sharp sand, which help to do that office, and without them, or something of that kind, a fowl will be wanting of its appetite to eat ; for the gizzard cannot masticate, or, as it may be said, grind the food fast enough to discharge it from the crop, without such sand or stones ; and in this case the brick-dust is assisting.

D U C K S.

DUCKS are very necessary for the husbandman's yard, in that they require no charge in keeping ; they live on lost corn, worms, snails, &c. for which reason they are very good for gardens. Once in a year they are very great layers of eggs, especially a sort of duck that turns up the bill more than the common kind ; and when they sit they need little attendance, except to let them have a little barley or offal corn and water near them, that they may not straggle far from their nest to chill their eggs.

In general it is found more profitable to set a hen upon the duck eggs, than any kind of duck whatever, because the old one leads them when hatch'd, too soon to the water, where, if the weather be chill, some will be lost. They follow the hen a good while upon the land, and so get hardy before they venture to the water.

About thirteen eggs is the proper number to let a duck sit upon ; the hen will cover as many of these as of her own, and will bring them up well ; so that every way she is more profitable for that purpose.

When the ducklings are hatch'd they require no care, if the weather be tolerably good ; but if they happen to be produced in a very rainy season, it right to take them under cover a little, especially in the night ; for, though the duck naturally loves water, it requires the assistance of its feathers, and, till they are grown, is easily hurt by the wet.

The fattening of ducks at any age is very
easy,

easy, and whether it be the duckling, or the grown duck, the method to be used is exactly the same. They are to be put into a quiet dark place, and kept in a pen, where they are to have plenty of corn and water ; any kind of corn will do, and with this single direction, they will fatten themselves extremely well in fifteen or twenty days ; and will bring a price that very well repays their feeding.

G E E S E.

THE benefits arising from geese are, for food, their feathers, and their grease. They will live upon commons, or any sort of pasture, and need little care and attendance ; only they should have plenty of water. The largest geese are reckoned the best, but there is a sort of Spanish geese that are much better layers and breeders than the English, especially if their eggs, are hatched under an English goose.

Geese lay in the Spring, the earlier the better, because of their price, and of their having a second brood. They commonly lay twelve or sixteen eggs each. You may know when they will lay, by their carrying of straw in their mouths, and when they will sit, by their continuing on their nest, after they have laid. A goose sits thirty days ; but if the weather be fair and warm, she will hatch three or four days sooner. After the goslings are hatched, some keep them in the house ten or twelve days, and feed them with curds, barley meal, bran, &c. After they have got some strength, let them out
three

three or four hours in a day, and take them in again, till they are big enough to defend themselves from vermin. One gander will serve five geese.

If you would fat green geese, you must shut them up when they are about a month old, and they will be fat in about a month more. Be sure to let them have always by them in a small rack some fine hay, which will much hasten their fatting. But for fatting of older geese, it is commonly done when they are about six months old, in or after harvest, when they have been in the stubble fields, from which food some kill them, which is a good way; but those who have a mind to have them very fat, shut them up for a fortnight or three weeks, and feed them with oats, splitted beans, barley meal, or ground malt mixed with milk, the best thing to fatten them with being malt mixed with beer. But in fatting of all water fowl you may observe, that they usually sit with their bills on their rumps, where they suck out most of their moisture and fatness, at a small bunch of feathers, which you will find standing upright on their rumps, and always moist, with which they trim their feathers, which makes them oily and slippery more than other fowls feathers are, that the water may slip off them, which, if cut away close, will make them fat in less time, and with less meat than otherwise. Geese will likewise feed on and fatten well with carrots, cut small, and given them; or if you give them rye before or about Midsummer, it will strengthen them, and keep them

them
ly tin
In
feath
this
there
and

T
not
them
ble.
their
them
and
take
them
bird
* whe
ver
and
part
man
hen
whi
fine
alw
wer
our
care
Eng
I
gre

them in health, that being commonly their sickly time.

In some countries they shear the geese for their feathers, and some pull them twice a year; but this latter way is more injurious to them, and therefore it is better staying till moulting-time, and till their death, for their feathers.

T U R K I E S.

TURKIES are fowls that prosper very well in open countries, where there is not much shelter to harbour vermin to destroy them; for they are naturally inclined to ramble. The hens likewise are so negligent of their young, that whilst they have one to follow them, they never take any care of the rest; and therefore there must be a great deal of care taken of them while they are young, to watch them, and to keep them warm, they being a bird that cannot bear the cold. But some, where they have a conveniency of a small cover near the house, let them take their liberty, and seek their own nests; but it is only in some particular places that they do well with such management. I knew a gentleman that had a hen turkey of the wild kind from Virginia, of which, and an English cock, he raised a very fine breed, that bred wild in the fields, and always became tame when grown up; they were a very hardy breed, and much larger than ours, and reared their young ones without any care or trouble, breeding much better than our English.

If you keep them with corn, they are very great feeders, and will devour a great deal;

M

but

but if left to their liberty when grown up, they will get their own living, without either trouble or charges, by feeding on herbs, seeds, &c.

Turkies being very apt to straggle, will often be laying their eggs in secret places, and therefore the common sort of them must be often watched, and made to lay at home. They begin to lay in March, and will sit in April. Eleven or thirteen eggs are the most they should sit on. They hatch in between twenty-five and thirty days; and when they have hatched their brood, you must be careful to keep the young ones warm; for the least cold kills them. Feed them either with curds, or green fresh cheese cut in small pieces. Let their drink be new milk, or milk and water. Some give them oatmeal and milk boiled thick together, into which they put wormwood chopped small, and sometimes eggs boiled hard, and cut in little pieces. You must feed them often, for the hen will not take much care of them, and when they have got some strength, feed them abroad in a close walled place, where they cannot stray; you must not let them out till the dew is off the grass, taking care to have them in again before night, because the dew is very prejudicial to them.

For the fatting of turkies, sodden barley is very excellent, or sodden oats for the first fortnight, and for another fortnight cram them as you do capons. They are only to be crammed in a morning, which must be given to them warm, and let out all day, being sometimes fed with corn while out; because, being a fullen bird, they are apt else not to fat so kindly. Their

Their eggs are reckoned very wholesome, and a great restorer of nature.

P I G E O N S.

WE come now to treat of a fowl smaller in its size than any of the before-mentioned kinds, but superior to many of them in value; the pigeon. The management of this bird is also different in a great measure from that of the others, so that it naturally falls under consideration singly.

The proper pigeon for the dovecot, which is the only kind the farmer is to regard, is able, the greatest part of the year, to provide for itself; and when it requires his assistance, the food is not of any dear kind. Beside the common advantages of the breed, there is that great article their dung, which is of such service for manure, that it must be the interest of every farmer to provide it for his own use, especially as that is to be done with great ease, and the same method that affords it will yield him also many other advantages.

There are two sorts of pigeons, the tame, and dovecot. The tame pigeon is valued not only for its beauty, but for the largeness of its body; the common pigeon, which is the kind usually kept in dovecots, and thence called the dovecot pigeon, is smaller, and less beautiful.

The tame kind generally have but two young ones at a brood; but they make some amends for the smallness of the number by the frequency of their hatching; for, if well fed and tended, they will have young ones every month.

For the choice of these the beauty is generally most regarded ; but there should be care taken to pair them well, and this is the more worth while, because they are not apt to separate afterwards.

They must be kept clean, for they dislike dirt, though they make a great deal of it. But their food is so dear, that few, but those who know very well how to manage them, care to meddle with them. Their best food is tares or white peas, and they should have beside this some gravel and clean water scattered about, at all times : a great deal of care must be taken to preserve them from vermin, and their eggs from the starlings and other birds, which always haunt the places where they are kept, and will suck them.

In order to the perfect thriving of these pigeons, it will be proper, beside their food, gravel, and water, always to let there be salt, clay, or some other thing with sea salt in it, for them to peck at their pleasure.

We have said thus much with respect to the management of the tame pigeon, for the information of such as may chuse to breed them, and have not had opportunities of seeing it done ; and it will be proper to add here, that although the expence and trouble they occasion, be more than is worth the husbandman's while in general to give himself, yet there is this advantage, that their dung is richer than that of the common pigeon as a manure, which is owing to their food.

We come now to the consideration and management of the common or dovecoat pigeon, which

which is a subject that demands, and deserves the husbandman's utmost regard.

There are some counties where the husbandmen sow great quantities of horse-beans and grey peas, and in these particularly the pigeons feed to a great advantage. These sort of pulse are sowed earlier than other kinds of grain; and their early feeding upon them makes them healthful and strong at those times, and is an occasion of their breeding earlier than they do elsewhere, which is a consideration of great importance.

The common blue pigeon is properly the dove-coat breed; and it has the advantage of many other kinds, in that it is hardier, and will live in the worst Winters.

If it be too small for the farmer's purpose, he may mend the breed by putting in a few tame pigeons of the most common kind, and the least conspicuous in their colours, that the rest may the better take to them by finding them more like themselves; this, however, is to be done with caution, and never without a due consideration; for tho' the bigness of a pigeon's body is a plain advantage, yet it is very well known in the kinds in general, that the smallest bodied are the best breeders.

The ringdove has been by some introduced into the dovecoat, by setting the eggs under a common pigeon; they will in this case live, and take their chance among the pigeons; and they have two over them, the one in their largeness, and the other in their hardness; for they will endure any weather, and live upon any food.

The husbandman should have a very careful eye upon the proportion of the sexes among his pigeons ; for there is nothing so hurtful as the having too many cocks, especially if they keep the larger, or tame kind. It is his business to keep his dovecoat well stocked ; and most people who keep them make their consciences easy about deducing away those belonging to their neighbours ; but this abundance of cocks thins the dovecoat, for they grow quarrelsome, and will beat others away, till by degrees a very thriving dovecoat shall be, by this single mistake, reduced to a poor condition.

A very cheap and easy way of making a dovecoat, is to build the wall with clay, mixed with straw ; they may be made four feet or more in thickness, and while they are wet it is easy to cut holes in them with a chissel or other instrument.

Of whatever materials the coat be erected, it should be white-washed frequently on the outside. The pigeon, as has been said already, is a cleanly bird : it loves the appearance of neatness ; and beside the white colour renders the building more conspicuous.

As to the food of pigeons, beside the peas and tares already mentioned, barley is very proper, heartening them very much, and making them lay ; and for the same purpose buckwheat also is an excellent as well as cheap food.

For the greatest part of the year, however, the common pigeons in a dovecoat take care of themselves, and need no food from their keeper. There are only two seasons at which it is necessary or proper to feed them. One of these times is the depth of Winter, when the ground

is covered with snow, or 'hardened so by frost, that nothing is to be got ; and the other is, the middle or latter end of June.

The reason of feeding them in the first of these seasons is obvious ; the latter, the farmers when they speak of this fowl call benting time. There is a grass called bent grass, the seed of which is ripe about this season, and is the only food of that kind the pigeons can easily get, the peas being not yet ripe. This is a very poor food, and the pigeons at this season usually have many young broods ; so that they will be starved if they are left to this poor diet ; and the farmer will always find his account in giving them food at this season, as well as the other. This lasts however but a small time ; and the other is only necessary at the severest days of winter ; so that the pigeon is at the utmost, but a small expence, and that for a very short time.

Beside the food, the breeder of tame pigeons has been advised to give them a lump of salted clay, and the same indulgence must be shewn to these. But as they are more numerous, there is to be a larger allowance. A large heap of clay should be laid near the dovecoat, and the brine of the family continually beaten in among it. Another way is to make a kind of mortar with lime, sand, clay and salt, which they will peck with great satisfaction. The pigeons themselves have pointed out this method, for they are continually pecking at the joints of walls to get out the mortar. When it is thus made on purpose for them, it is best to make it thin, and keep it so by often beating it up with brine.

In some places they lay what is called a salt cat near the dovecoat. This is a large lump of salt made for the purpose at the salt pans ; and is the method commonly taken where there are works in the neighbourhood, but the way of using salt in a mixture with clay is better.

What I have found by experience to answer best of all is this. A heap of loam is to be laid near the dovecoat, and beat up to a kind of pap with brine or water ; into this is to be thrown a large quantity of bay salt, and a little saltpetre, and with it a shovel full or two of large coarse sand. When brine is used to beat up the loam, less salt is to be used ; and when water, there must be the more of it in proportion. And in the same manner, if the loam contain a great deal of sand, the less is to be added to it. And if it contain less, the more is to be given. Where loam is not to be had, clay will do ; but then a much larger quantity of sand must be put in ; and the best sand for this purpose is large coarse sea sand, which is already impregnated with salt water ; or that which is got in screening of gravel.

It is a very singular thing that the pigeon loves salt in this manner, and its fondness for saltpetre, which is very great, is not so well known ; tho' this might have been discovered by observing the liking this bird has to the mortar in old walls, which contains a salt very nearly allied to the common saltpetre.

Salt is not only useful in this manner to please the pigeons, when they are in health, but nothing recovers them so readily from sickness. A
mix-

mixture of bay salt and cummin seed, being with them a universal remedy.

A great many contrivances have been published, and many more are handed about among the country people as great secrets, for making the pigeons love their habitation, and tempting such stragglers from their neighbours as chance to come to the coat to settle in it. Some have advised the use of asafœtida, and others of cummin seed before mentioned for this purpose; but the best method of all others is to keep up constantly such a heap of salted loam as I have before described; this is what they love, and they will therefore stay where they can have it in plenty. This contrivance, with the addition of keeping the dovecoat neat and clean, and not suffering them to be disturbed in it, will be sure to keep the stock in good number, and too likely to increase it at the expence of the neighbours.

The profit of pigeons is very considerable, and very certain, for they breed fast, and there is a constant demand for them. Near great towns it may be worth while to keep some of the large tame kind; because, although they cannot be fed but at a large expence, yet their young come so early, and are so fat and fine, that they command a price, which very well returns it. But in the country the common pigeon is the proper kind; for though the price that the birds fetch is not nearly so great, their number and small expence of keeping, very well make amends.

I have spoken often to the farmers to recommend their setting up dovecoats, but have found it in nothing so difficult to make them listen to me. While they have bought pigeons dung at

a great price, and fetched it from a great distance, they have still been backward to think of keeping pigeons themselves for their own supply. There is a superstition among them, that it is unlucky to set up a new dovecoat; this has come down from father to son, and they persuade themselves it would certainly be followed by death in the family. Nothing can be so ridiculous, or so weak, as such a supposition: but there never was an old woman's tale so deeply rooted.

R A B B E T S.

RABBETS are very profitable creatures for their great increase, and their being kept on dry barren sand, or gravel that will maintain nothing else, which the dryer it is the better for them; this sort of lands they must improve by their dung for rye. Besides which many make great profit of them, by keeping of them in hutches near great towns, and some keep great quantities of them in pits to catch when they want them, they being a very dish upon any occasion; but they must be in a very dry warm soil; if they are any thing deep; they will be else too cold, or too damp for them. I should rather prefer for them a large barn made very tight after the way of making of barns for preserving corn in, to keep vermin out of; for the tame rabbits must lie dry and warm, or else they will not breed in Winter, which is the chief time of their profit, and what makes them preferred before the wild ones, they are much better meat, if they have their liberty, especially the white shock Turkey rabbit.

A rabbit begins to breed at a year old, will kindle at least five times a year, if it litters in March ; it carries its young in its belly for thirty days, and as soon as the doe has kindled, they are to be taken from her at about six weeks old, then put the doe to buck ; or you may put her to buck when her young are about a month old.

The males are of a cruel disposition, and frequently kill the young ones, if they can come at them ; and therefore the females, after they have kindled, hide them, and close up the holes in such a manner that the buck cannot find them.

The huts in which tame rabbits are to be kept, should be about two feet square, and a foot high, and that should be divided into four partitions or squares, one quarter with an open grate or wire window, through which the rabbits may feed, and a less apartment with an out light, in which the doe may kindle or kennel, and under this window should be a box or trough, in which may be put her meat ; and thus may be made hutch over hutch, three or four stories high, keeping bucks and does a part from one another.

In the chusing tame rich rabbits, it is more material to regard the richness of them, than their shapes ; but let the bucks be as large as you can get them ; and those coats are esteemed the richest, that have the equallest mixture of black and white hair together, but so that the black may rather shadow than the white ; a black coat, with a few silver hairs, being much richer than a white coat with a few black ones.

The

The increase is more in the tame than the wild, the former bringing forth oftener than the latter.

The best food for them is the sweetest, shortest, and best hay that can be got. This hay must be put to them in little cloven sticks, that they may with ease reach and pull it out of the same, so as not to scatter or waste but as little as may be; and sweet oats and water should be put for them in the troughs under the boxes, and this should be their ordinary and constant food, all other being to be used physicially, giving it them two or three times in a fortnight, to cool their bodies, such as mallows, clover-grass, four docks, blade of corn, cabbage or colewort leaves, and the like, all which do both cool and nourish them greatly; but you should but seldom give them sweet grains, because nothing brings them to the rot more.

If they have any grass cut for them, you must be very careful that there be no weeds nor hemlock amongst it; for tho' they will eat it very greedily, it is present poison, killing them suddenly.

In general, the advantage of their dry meat is, that it prevents diseases; and those who commonly keep them upon flesh and moist food, as many do, giving them carrots and other eatable roots among it, would do well to change it for dry meat in wet weather: for moist food is the great cause of these creatures having the rot, and they are most of all subject to this in damp seasons.

Their hutches must also be kept sweet and clean, for the scent of their pils and dung is so strong, that it will be a very great annoyance

ance
them

A
one
is n
taken
died
upon
husb
that
shou
for
advan
grea

A
in, f
are t

E
ceeds
youn
being
is to
this
grou
nefit

In
the b
grou
much

O
to th
very
Whe
water
clear
pecte

ance both to themselves, and those that look after them.

As to the wild rabbits, there is properly but one breed of them, and all the direction that is needful in the choice is, that such as are taken to begin a stock, be large, and big bodied, with a good deep fur, that hangs fast upon their backs, and with stout limbs. The husbandman who has waste ground in his hands, that is fenced well, and not with live hedges, should never omit this part of his stock, for the worst of his ground will do, and the advantage he receives from them will be very great.

A small number is sufficient to be first turned in, for of all creatures useful to mankind, they are the greatest breeders.

Experience shews that the wild rabbit succeeds better in some places than others; the young growing up much quicker, and the flesh being finer, and better tasted. The reason of this is to be searched in the soil and the produce, and this may teach the husbandman on which of such grounds as seem proper, it will be most to his benefit to breed them.

In general, the shorter and scantier the grass, the better is the taste of the rabbit; the drier the ground the better they succeed; where there is much water they never are well flavoured.

Of all creatures water is the least necessary to the rabbit, for we see the tame ones will live very well altogether without it, on moist food. Where the soil is driest, the air finest, and the water that there is in the way is running and clear, there the rabbits may reasonably be expected to succeed best.

N

As

As I have observed that the common wild rabbit will very freely be kept tame, so it has been found, many years since, that those which we usually understand as tame rabbits, will live very well wild, especially the hardier kinds. This is a consideration of some consequence, because there is one of the tame kind that is, in every respect, better than the common wild one. This is that which is known by the name of the silver haired rabbit. It will live and thrive as well wild as the common sort, and it is always better tasted, and fair to the eye, so that it brings a larger price. The skin also is of much more value, and the demand for it among the furriers is constant and certain.

For these reasons it is, in many cases, advisable to breed this sort wild instead of the other ; for though it often is so, it is not always. This, though as hardy as the other, requires a better supply of food, and is poor, and of little value, upon those barren and heathy lands, on which the common wild rabbit succeeds very well.

The proper place for this kind is a park, where they may run at liberty among the deer, and other cattle, and where there is good grass, though not rank, upon the ground ; the other is the proper kind for the most miserable and poor lands.

Plain

Or soup-pees and onions boiled together, and sprinkle in the room, kills them.

Or, marsh-fleabane spread in your room, or burnt, will drive them away. Elder-leaves gathered, with dew on them, and laid in a chamber, will gather all the fleas thereinto, which you may kill, or throw out of the window.

Or, take an earthen dish or platter, smear it all round with bulls fat, and it will gather the fleas to it; or smear it with goat's blood, and they'll come into it; or the blood of an ox mixed with foot, and rubbed on the inside of the dish, will make them come into it in a day or two.

Or, rub a small piece of board over with hog's grease, and all the fleas will gather to it in the middle of the room.

Or, take the blood of a badger, smear a trencher over with it, and it will gather all the fleas to it, and kill them: or, coloquintida, oil, and wormwood, boiled in water, and sprinkled about the room, kills them.

Or, take southernwood, rue, wormwood; saffron; walnut-leaves, lavender fleeced. lay all those, or some of them, under the blankets; or else boil them in vinegar and sea-onions, and with that besprinkle the bed.

To destroy RATS and MICE.

TAKE ratsbane, powder it, and mix it with fresh butter, or make it into a paste with barley, or wheat meal and honey, and lay it on trenchers or boards where they come; they will eat it, and it makes them drink till they burst. It is a strong poison, therefore be very careful in

using it, and wash your hands after it. Or un-slacked lime and oatmeal mixed, and laid on boards where they come, kill them.

Or, mix powdered glass and oatmeal with fresh butter, and lay it where they come ; or filings of iron, mixed with oatmeal, or dough, of oatmeal flour, will answer the same purpose.

Or, take wheat or barley flour, mix honey or metheglin with it, and make it into a stiff paste ; if you mix a little white hellebore powdered with it, it is better. Hemlock seed thrown into their holes kills them.

To kill Field Rats.

The fields are generally bare in the dog days, then is your time to find out their holes or nests, which are little and round, like an augur hole ; you must put hemlock seed therein, or hellebore mixed with barley : they will eat it greedily, which kills them.

To preserve Artichoaks from Rats or Mice.

They are great lovers of artichoaks, and will come to them in troops ; to prevent this, wrap wool about their roots, and they will be gone. Or, hog's dung, or fig-tree ashes laid about them, will drive them away.

To destroy M O L E S.

TAKE a head or two of garlick, onion, or leek, and put it into their holes, and they will

will run out as if frightened, and you may with a spear or dog take them.

Or, pounded hellebore, white or black, with wheat flour, the white of an egg, milk and sweet wine or metheglin, make it into paste, and put pellets as big as a small nut into their holes, they eat it with pleasure, and it will kill them.

In places you would not dig nor break much, the fuming their holes with brimstone, garlick, or other unsavoury things, drive them away; and if you put a dead mole into a common haunt it will make them absolutely forsake it.

Or, take a mole spear or staff, and where you see them cast, go lightly; but not on the side betwixt them and the wind, lest they perceive you; and at the first or second putting up of the earth, strike them with your mole staff down-right, and mark which way the earth falls most: if she casts toward the left hand, strike somewhat on the right hand, and so on the contrary to the casting up of the plain ground, strike down, and there let it remain: then take out the tongue in the staff, and with the spattle or flat edge dig round about your grain to the end thereof, to see if you have killed her; and if you have missed her, leave open the hole, and step aside a little, and perhaps she will come to stop the hole again, for they love but very little air, and then strike again; but if you miss her, pour into her hole two gallons of water, and that will make her come out for fear of drowning; mind them going out of a morning to feed, or coming home when fed, and you may take a great many.

Or, it is said, that in engendering time, if you

you lead or draw a bitch mole in a string along the ground, the buck will trace her, and so you may catch them in a pot set in the ground.

To destroy Weasles.

Take sal-ammoniac, pound it, and with wheat flour and honey make it into a paste, with the white of an egg, lay it in pellets where they come, and it will kill them.

To prevent their sucking hens eggs, lay rue about the roost, and they will not come near them.

To destroy Caterpillars.

To prevent their numerous increase on trees, gather them off in Winter, taking the prickles away that cleave to the branches, and burn them.

Or, anoint the bottom of the tree round about with tar, then get many pismires and put them in a bag; hang them so that they may touch the bottom of the tree; the pismires not being able to get down for the tar, will devour the caterpillars for want of food.

Or, when they are upon cabbage or coleworts, take some salt water, and water them with it, and it will kill them.

Or, shake them off the plants betimes in a morning, for while they are touched with the cold of the night, they easily drop off.

To destroy Green Bugs that hurt plants and rose-trees.

Sprinkle the places where they fix with strong vinegar

vinegar mixed with the juice of henbane; or, some water the plants haunted by them with the cold decoction of mustard and laurel seed in water; some quash them with their fingers, which is a good way; or flee-bane boiled in water, and sprinkled, will kill them.

To destroy Vine-Fretters.

Stick a rod half a foot high in the ground, with mugs or cups turned over the top of it, and you will find that they creep under them for shelter, so you may easily kill them.

Or, put eight or nine crabs in an earthen pot with water, and let them stand eight days in the open air, then take off this water, and sprinkle your plants in their infancy, repeat this once in eight days, and it will kill most sort of vermin.

To destroy Frogs.

Take a sheep, ox, or goat's gaul, and bruise it by the water side; the frogs will gather to it, and it will kill them.

To prevent their croaking, set a candle and lanthorn upon the side of the water or river, that waters your garden.

Toads will not come near your garden, if you plant sage and rue round about it.

To drive Snakes and Adders from the Garden.

Plant wormwood in various parts of it, and they will not come near it.

Or, smoak the places with hartshorn, or lily roots

roots, burnt in a fire-pan, and they will fly from the place.

Or, old shoes burnt, or other stinking stuff will drive them away ; or ash-tree boughs, while green leaves are on them, laid about your ground will have the same effect.

Or, take a handful of onions, and ten river crab fish, beat them well together, and lay it in the place where they come, and you may kill many of them together.

To keep Earwigs and Pismires from Flowers.

Take glue boiled in linseed oil, and lay this round a tub four inches broad, and if they go to climb up, they will stick in it : but if any should get up, lay on the top of the flowersticks, paper caps, lobsters claws, with some wool or tow in them, and in the morning you will find many in them.

Or, make a box with cards or pasteboard, prick it full of holes with a bodkin, and put in them powder of Arsenick and honey mixed together : having the boxes on the trees, and it will kill them. You must be careful the holes are not made too large, lest the bees get in, and be poisoned.

Or, hang a glass bottle in a tree, with a little honey in it, or other sweet liquor, and it will bring the ants into it, which you must stop and wash, and place there again.

To destroy Snails.

Set tiles, bricks or boards, hollow against the walls, pales. &c. and they will creep under them

them for shelter. About Michaelmas they get to such places for security the whole Winter, except you prevent it by destroying them in December which is the easiest, best and surest way to destroy them.

Or, look for them by break of day, or after rain, then they come out of the earth to feed, and are easily killed.

Also observe, not to pluck that fruit they have begun with, but les it alone, for they will end that before they begin another.

To prevent Flies teasing Cattle.

Boil bay-berries in oil, and anoint them with it, and they will never sit on cattle ; or, wet the hair of horses with the juice of the leaves of gourd at Midsummer, and they will not molest them. If cattle are anointed with the juice of aresemart, flies will not come near them, tho' it is the heat of Summer.

To destroy Earwigs.

Place hoofs, horns, crabs, or lobsters claws on branches of trees, and they will creep into them ; early in the morning take them gently off and shake them into a tub of water, of on the ground, and tread on them.

To destroy Wasps and Hornets that detriment Bees.

In Spring or Summer, before they are increased, destroy the old ones, for a few increase to a multitude.

Or,

Or, scald them, if in the thatch or hollow tree, or smoak them with any stinking combustible matter.

Or, put cyder, verjuice, or sour drink, in a short necked phial, and you may catch many in it. Also lay sweet apples, beaſts intrails, or other ſiſh, or treacle in an earthen diſh, and a little water mixed with it, or any thing they love, and they will flock about it, that you may kill many at once.

Or, put pieces of lighted brimſtine-rags into the waſps holes, where the neſt lies, and then fill it up with earth.

Swallows are great enemies to bees ; therefore take care to deſtroy their neſts wherever you find them.

To deſtroy Gnats.

Shut your windows cloſe in Summer towards, the evening, and ſmoak your rooms with brimſtone, and burn ſtraw in them, and they will fly into the flame, or be choaked.

Or, the ſmoak of burnt fern will drive away gnats, ſerpents, and other venomous creatures.

Or, aſh-leaves hung up in a room attracts them, that they are leſs troubleſome ; alſo, balls made of new horſe-dung, and laid in a room, will do the ſame ; by this means you may overwhelm them with a baſon, and keep them there.

To deſtroy Worms.

Water, wherein the leaves and ſeeds of hemp
are

are sodden, sprinkled on earth, will bring them out.

Or, sea water sprinkled on the ground, kills them. Some say, foot strewed on the ground, kills them. Others commend chalk and lime, strewed on the ground.

Take a quantity of green walnut husks, and rub them on a brick or tile, holding them at the bottom of a pail of water till the water is become bitter, which sprinkled on the ground, will bring the worms out in a quarter of an hour.

Or, water your garden with the brine of salt meat, and it kills them; or, with a strong lixivium made of ashes: or, lay ashes or lime about any plant, and neither snails nor worms will come near it; as the moisture weakens, you may renew it. Some smoak their holes with ox or cow dung; or the mother of oil sprinkled on their holes kills them.

Or, after rain or sun-set gather them when they come out of their dens, and kill them.

Or, set the leaves and seeds of hemp in water, and sprinkle it on the earth, brings forth worms.

Or, take a poker, with two prongs is best, and stick it in the ground, and shake it well, brings out worms; morning and evening is the best time.

To destroy Worms in Apple-trees.

Lay a sea onion about the trees, to preserve them from worms; if they come naturally, bull's gall, or hogs dung mingled with man's urine, and poured to the roots, destroys them; but if they are hard to destroy, the bark must be dugged into with a brass pin, or such like tool, and

tended till the point take upon the worms, and drives them from the place ; but where there is a place ulcerated, stop it with ox dung : an apple tree plant, the root being anointed with bull's gaul, they and their fruit will be free from worms.

To prevent Worms eating Chests of Drawers, or Wood.

Rub them with linseed oil ; or rub them with wormwood, rue, or other bitter herbs, preserves them, and all wooden household stuff, that is rubbed with the lees of linseed oil, and polished, will look pleasant.

To destroy Polecats.

If you can conveniently have a channel about your pigeon house, it will preserve them and all other fowl, for no beast of prey will take the water.

Or, some make a dead fall to take them, which is made of a square piece of wood, weighing 40 or 50 pounds ; they bore a hole in the middle of the upper side, and set a crooked hook fast in it ; also they set four forked stakes fast in the ground, and they lay too sticks across, on which sticks lay a strong staff to hold the dead fall up to the crook, and under this crook, they put a short stick, and fasten a line to it, and this line must reach down to the bridge below ; and this bridge you must make about five or six inches broad. Then set on both sides of this fall boards or pales, or hedge it with close rods, and make it ten or twelve inches high ; let the passage be no wider than the fall is broad.

To

To destroy Badgers.

Badgers are pernicious creatures, and destroy lambs, pigs, and poultry.

Some take them in a steel trap, or a spring, as foxes are taken.

Others make a pit-fall five feet deep, and four long, making it long at the top and bottom, and wider in the middle; then cover it with some small sticks and leaves, so that he may fall in when he comes on it. Sometimes a fox is taken thus.

Others hunt the badger to his hole in a moonlight night, and dig him out.

Hedgehogs always make their cave or cabbin contrary to the wind.

To destroy Foxes.

Take a sheep's paunch, and tie it to a long stick, then rub your shoes well upon it, that he may not scent your sweaty feet; draw this paunch after you as a trail, a mile or more, and bring it near some thick headed tree; leave your paunch, and get into the tree with a gun, and as it begins to be dark, you will see him come after the scent of the trail, where you may shoot him: draw the trail if you can to the windward of the tree.

The best way is, to set a steel trap in the plain part of a large field, out of the way of all paths, yet not near a hedge, or any shelter: then open the trap, set it on the ground, and cut out just the form thereof in a turf, and take out so much earth as to make room to stay it; then cover it a-

gain very neatly with the turf you cut out ; and as the joint of the turf will not close exactly, get some mold of a new cast up mole-hill, and put it close round the turf, sticking some grass in it as if it there grew ; make it curious and neat, that it might even deceive yourself. Ten or twelve yards from the trap, three several ways, scatter some of the mole-hill mold very thin, on a place fifteen or sixteen inches square ; then on these places, and where the trap is placed, lay three or four small bits of cheese, and then with a sheep's paunch draw a trail of a mile or two long to each of the three places, and from thence to the trap, that the fox may come to one of these places first, for then he will approach the trap more boldly ; and thus you will never fail of him. Be sure let your trap be loose, that he may draw it to some hedge or covert, or he will bite off his leg and be gone.

To make a Spring Trap.

Tie a string to some pole set fast in the ground, and to this string make fast a small, short stick, made thin on the upper side, with a notch at the lower end of it ; then set another stick fast in the ground, with a nitch under it ; then bend down the pole, and let both the nicks or notches join as slight as may be ; then open the noose of the string, and place it in his path or walk ; and if you lay pieces of cheese, flesh, and such like, it will entice him that way.

Or, grease the soles of your shoes with hog's fat a little broiled, and as you come from the wood, drop in several places as you pass, a piece of roasted swine's liver, dipt in honey, drawing after

after you a dead cat, and he'll follow you, so that you may shoot him.

A Hook to take a Fox tied to a tree.

This hook is made of large wire, and turns on a swivel, like the collar of a greyhound ; it is frequently used in catching wolves, but oftener for the fox. They hang it from the ground so high that he must leap to catch it ; and bait it with flesh, liver, cheese, &c, and if you run a trail with a sheep's paunch as before directed, it will draw him the more easily to the bait.

Methods of taking small Birds with Lime-twigs.

Cut down the main branch or bough of any bushy tree, whose branch and twigs are long, thick, smooth and straight, without either pricks or knots ; when you have picked off the leaves, make the twigs neat and clean, then take the bird lime, well mixed and wrought together with goose-grease, or capon's, which being warmed, lime every twig therewith within four fingers of the bottom.

The body from whence the branches have their rise must be untouched with lime.

You must be carerul not to daub your twigs with too much lime, for that will give as much distaste to the birds, as too little will not hold them when they are there.

Having so done, place your brush in some quickset, or dead hedge, near the town's end, back yard, old house, or the like ; for these

are the resorts of small birds in the Spring-time. In the summer and harvest in groves, bushes, or white thorn trees, quickset hedges, near corn fields, fruit trees, flax and hemp lands ; and in the Winter, about houses, hovels, barns, stacks or other places, where stand ricks of corn, or scattered chaff, &c.

As near as you can to any of these haunts, plant your lime bush, and plant yourself also at a convenient distance, undiscovered, imitating with your mouth several notes of birds, which you must learn by frequent practice, walking the fields for that purpose very often, observing the variety of several birds sounds, especially such as they call one another by.

To scare Crows, Ravens, Jack-daws, &c.

Make a hole in the ground where they come, let it be about a foot deep and two feet over, and stick the long back feather of a crow, or other fowl, round the edges thereof, and some at the bottom ; then make several of these holes, if the ground be large, and it will fright them away.

Dead crows hung up will much affright them ; but among cherry-trees and other fruit trees, draw a line from tree to tree, and in various places fasten a black feather, and this will do.

To take Bulfinches, Goldfinches, &c.

The bulfinch is a very pernicious bird, and in the Spring will make great destruction among
the

the plum and currant trees. The best way to take them, is to lime the twigs.

Goldfinches are as bad for gooseberry-buds, and must be taken the same way.

Sparrows are great devourers of corn ; use the same method for them, and all other small birds.

A Remedy by which a dog bitten by another that is mad, may be cured.

Take three plants of that herb which is called rose-plantain, and having chopped it small with a proper quantity of butter, let the dog that is bit take it the first day ; the second day give him five plants ordered as before ; the next day seven.

The following are the evident signs by which a mad dog may be known, and likewise avoided.

A mad dog is seemingly rapacious and thirsty, yet eats and drinks nothing ; his eyes are fierce and flaming ; he hangs down his ears and thrusts out his tongue ; froths much at the mouth, and barks at his shadow ; oftentimes runs along with a melancholy countenance, without barking at all ; frequently pants for breath, as if tired with running ; carries his tail bent inwards ; runs without distinction against all he meets, with great fury, and bites ; hurrying on in a hasty and uncertain course. Dogs that are well are afraid, and fly both at the sight and barking of one that is mad. The first mad symptom in a dog, is an unusual trembling.

[Receipt

*Receipt to cure Poultry stung with any venomous
Worms, or other poisonous Thing.*

This you perceive by their lounging and swelling; in which case anoint them with rue and butter mixt together.

*To prevent your Trees from being peeled by Hares,
Rabbits, or other Animals.*

Take tar, which mix with any kind of grease, and boil it over the fire so as both may incorporate, then with a brush daub over the stem of the trees as high as they can reach; do this in November, and it will secure the trees for the whole year, it being the Winter-time only when they feed on the bark.

To cure the Pip in Poultry.

A pip is a white thin scale growing on the tip of the tongue, and will hinder poultry from feeding. It is easy to be discerned, and proceeds generally from drinking-puddle-water, or for want of water, or eating filthy meat. The cure is, to pull off the scale with your nail, and then rub the tongue with salt.

To cure the Rup.

The rup is ordinarily known by the staring or turning of the feathers backwards. To cure this you must pull away the feathers, and open the sore, thrust out the core, and then wash the place with salt and water. or with brine.

To

To cure the Flux.

The flux in poultry comes with eating too much moist meat. The cure is, to give them peas and bran, scalded.

To cure a stoppage in the belly.

This is a distemper contrary to the flux, and affects them so that they cannot move. To cure it, you must anoint the vents, and then give them small bits of bread, or corn, steeped in urine.

To cure Lice.

If you poultry be much troubled with lice, as it is common, proceeding from corrupt food, or want of bathing, or fluttering in sand, ashes, or such like, take pepper, small beaten, and mix it with warm water, wash your poultry therein, and it will kill all sorts of vermin.

To cure Sore Eyes in Poultry.

In this case take a leaf or two of ground-ivy, and chewing it well in your mouth, suck out the juice, and spit it into the sore eye, and it will assuredly heal it, as hath been often tried.

T H E

Shepherd's Barometer;

*Or, certain Rules to judge of the WEATHER :
grounded on fifty years experience and observa-
tions, by an ancient shepherd on the South Downs,
Suffex.*

THE sun. If the sun rises red and fiery, it certainly betokens more or less wind and rain, this observation agrees with the old English rule ;

If red the sun begins his race,
Be sure that rain will fall apace.

If cloudy at sun-rising, and it soon decreases, it is a certain sign of fair weather : agreeable to this an observation of Pliny's, in his natural history, which says—If at sun-rising the clouds are driven away, and retire as it were to the west, it denotes fair weather.

There is an old proverb to this purpose, which also deserves our notice :

A red evening, and a grey morning, set the pilgrim a walking.

Clouds. Little round clouds like a dapple grey, and at the same time a north-wind blows, denotes fair weather for a few days.

Lord.

Lord Bacon says, he had always observed, that if clouds appear white, and fly to the north-west, we had generally several days of fine weather. One of our old English minor poet says, (and it generally holds good)

If woollen fleeces spread the heavenly way,
Be sure, no rain disturbs the Summer day.

And Pilny, to the same purpose, says :
If the sun be surrounded with an iris, or circle of white clouds, and they equally fly away, 'tis a sign of fair weather.

And this old English proverb in often right *

In the decay of the moon,
A cloudy morning bodes a fair afternoon.

Large clouds, like rocks, denote large showers : this is an old observation, and generally proves true : in one of our old kalendars it is expressed thus :

When clouds appear like rocks and towers,
The earth's refresh'd by frequent showers.

But the quotations from other observers do not in the least diminish the credit of our shepherd, who certainly made his observations from nature and experience, and then compared them with what others had wrote before him.

If the weather be hazy, and the wind falls away, and smalls clouds increase, depend on much rain, and that soon.

If

If large clouds break away decrease in bulk, and ascend higher in the atmosphere, it is a certain sign of fair, pleasant weather. The large black clouds in Summer evenings, which seemingly threaten much rain over night, are frequently resolved into dews, and produce a very misty morning, and a fine warm day.

Mists. When they rise in low ground, and soon vanish, nothing is a surer sign of fair weather; when they are heavy, rise slowly, and keep visible on the hill-tops, they are soon condensed, and fall down in rain, which, however, seldom lasts long.

A mist in the morning, before sun-rising, and at or about the full of the moon, betides fair weather; but if mists appear in the new moon, you may depend on more or less rain in the old; and when they arise in the old, there is generally rain in the new.

Winds. South west winds and rain, north-east winds and fair weather, generally come together; and in nine years time I have observed, there is as much south-west as north-east wind; consequently, as many wet years as dry ones.

If the wind gets into the north-east, and remains three days without rain, it generally continues in that quarter for nine or ten days, which will be fair; and then it commonly turns to the south, and some rain follows.

If the wind shifts from the south to the north-east, and it rains at the same time, and continues north-east but two days without rain, it commonly abides chiefly in that quarter for two, and sometimes three months.

If

If the wind has been chiefly north for two month, and then comes to the south, you may expect a few fine days notwithstanding ; but if it continues south five or six days, depend on rain : but if it turns to the north again, it is undoubtedly dry.

If the wind shifts from the north to the south in a few days without rain, and turns north again with rain, returns to the south in one or two days, and so on for two or three times keeps shifting, it will afterwards fix south or south-west for two months or more.

A week of fair weather, with a south wind, forebodes a great drought, especially if there has been much rain out of the south before.

When the north wind first clears the air, which generally happens once a week, you may depend on a fair day or two.

Clouds. In Summer, or Autumn, when the wind has been in the south two or three days, and the weather very hot, and the clouds rise one above another, with white tops, like battlements of a tower, and joined together, and black on the hills, depend on thunder and rain very speedily.

You may sometimes see two clouds, one to the left, another to the right, which denotes a sudden shower.

When clouds float in a serene sky, you may expect winds; and if they rise from the south, depend on rain; and if you see them driving at sunset, come from what quarter they will, depend on a tempest approaching. Clouds that have a dusky hue, and move slowly, are laden with hail ; if they have a blue cast, with large hail ; if yellow,

low, small. Lord Bacon remarked, that the proverbs are the philosophy of the common people, and as many are founded on experience, and are undoubtedly true, such are worth our notice, and ought to be remembered.

The faster it rains, the sooner it will be over, and sudden rains never last long. But when the air grows thick, and the sun, moon and stars shine dim, then it is like to rain six hours successively.

If it begins raining in the south, attended with a high wind for two or three hours, and afterwards falls, but the rain continues, it will in all probability last for ten hours or more, unless a strong north wind should rise, which generally clears the air, and carries off the rain ; these rains seldom happen above once a year.

When it rains an hour or two before sun-rising, it generally clears before noon, and continues to the whole day : but if the rain sets in an hour or two, after sun-rising, it generally rains all day, unless the rainbow appears a little before the rain begins, then it seldom lasts long.

Of Spring and Summer.

If the last twenty days of February and ten first days of March be chiefly rain, then the Spring and Summer are generally wet.

A rainy Winter betokens a dry Autumn ; a dry Spring denotes a rainy Winter.

When October and November are warm and rainy, January and February are frosty and cold : but if October and November be snow and frost, then January and February are open and mild.

As

As the following old proverbs are in some measure true, they ought not to be forgot, and are therefore here inserted.

If the grafs grow in Janiveer,
It grows the worfe for't all the year.
The Welchman had rather fee his dam on the bier,
Than to fee a fair Februeer.
March wind, and May fun,
Makes cloaths white, and maids dun.
When April blows his horn,
Its good for both hay and corn.
An April flood,
Carries away the frog and her brood.
A cold May and a windy,
Makes a full barn and a findy.
A May flood
Never did good.
A swarm of bees in May,
Is worth a load of hay ;
But a swarm in July
Is not worth a fly.

To shew the approach of wet and dry weather.

Take a piece of dry whipcord, and tie a plumbet at the end, hang it against a wainscot or dry wall, and draw a line under it, exactly at the bottom, where the plumbet reaches ; do this in moderate weather, that is, when neither very dry nor very wet ; and when it is like to be wet weather, the plumbet will be above the line, and when dry, it will reach below the line ; but what is better, take a pair of scales, in one put a brass pound weight, in the other a pound of dry salt ;

let

let there be a shelf or board under the scales to prevent their sinking too low, and when it is inclined to rain, the scale with the salt will sink the lowest ; when inclined to dry, the scale with the brass weight will weigh up the salt.

Bat-Fowling, the manner of it.

OBSERVE where these birds roost in great numbers, as they generally do in shrubs, hedges, or trees ; then go in a dark night, and have a wicker with a handle to hold on high, in which place pieces of link or great candle, to make a great light ; some have a pan to make a fire, and carry it at their back ; but then one must put fire on as fast as it burns out ; then let one go with a pole, and beat the contrary side, and two or three with you, carrying long boughs ; and when they are unroosted with beating, they will come flying about the light, so that they with the bough may easily strike them down ; if among shrubs, as in a wood, let one on each side beat at a pretty distance. This must be done in a pure still night. Depth of Winter is the best for this sport. Some use nets made like a racket at the end of poles with which they are easily knocked down.

*A Secret to hinder pigeons from quitting
a pigeon-house.*

TAKE the head and feet of a gelt goat, and boil them together till the flesh separates from the bone ; take this flesh and boil it again in the same liquor, till the whole is consumed ; bruise into this decoction, which is very thick, some potter's earth, out of which you are to take all the stones, verch, dung, hemp, foot and corn ; the whole must be kneaded together, and reduced to a paste of dough, which form into small loaves about the thickness of two fists, and dry them in the sun or oven, and take care they do not burn ; when they are baked, lay them in several parts of the pigeon house, and as soon as they are set there, the pigeons will amuse themselves with pecking them, and finding some taste therein which pleases them, they will not afterwards leave it but with regret. Others take a handful of salt, which they candy, and afterwards put into the pigeon house. Some take a goat's head, and boil it in water with salt, cummin, hemp and urine ; and then expose it in the pigeon house, with which they amuse the pigeons. Lastly, there are those who fry millet in honey, and add a little water thereto to prevent its burning too ; this preparation is a repast to them, and will cause them to have such an affection for their ordinary habitation, that they will be so far from abandoning it themselves, that they will draw strange pigeons to it.

As it is very probable that this Book may fall into the Hands of many Persons in the Country, whose occasional Business may call them to London, or whose Inclinations may lead them to settle in the Metropolis, I would earnestly recommend to their Perusal the following Book, which is Published with the *most benevolent intention* of guarding the *honest* and *unwary* from the Tricks and Artifices of *villainous* and *designing* Wretches of both Sexes; and I the rather recommend this Work, as the Perusal of it has *already saved* several very worthy Persons from ruin: for though Country People are no Way deficient in point of *Abilities*, yet it is impossible that they should guard against Snares they have never heard or thought of, and which the Honesty of their Hearts would never allow them to suspect. Therefore the Perusal of it to those who design going to London, may very truly be allowed worth its Weight in Gold, although,

The Price is only One Shilling.

Adorned with Six curious Copper Plate Cuts, beautifully Engraved from original Designs, which alone are worth the Price of the Book,

The Cheats of *London* Exposed;

Or, the TRICKS of the TOWN

Laid open to BOTH SEXES.

Being a clear Discovery of all the various Frauds and villainies that are daily practised in that great City.

Among many others, are the following, viz.

Highwaymen, or Scamps, Sharpers, Gamblers, Kidnappers, Waggon-hunters, Money droppers, Duffers, Setters, pretended Friends, Mock Auctions, Register-Office, Quacks, Bullies, Bawds, Whores, Pimps, Jilts, Gossips, and Fortune tellers.

The whole laid down in so plain and easy a manner, as to enable the most innocent Country People to be completely on their Guard to avoid the base Impositions of such vile and abandoned Wretches, who live by robbing and ruining the young and innocent of both sexes.

Together with General Remarks on the present State and Condition of the Town, interspersed with useful Admonitions to Person of all Ages and Conditions.

By the Author of the LONDON SPY.

Herein are shewn the various Feats
Of Whores and Rogues, and other Cheats;
Here Youth are taught those Snares to shun,
By which *too many* are undone.

✂ To prevent Imposition, be careful to ask for *The Cheats of London exposed, adorned with Curious Copper-Plate Cuts*, and to observe that every Book is signed on the Back of the Title Page, by J. COOKE, of Pater-Noster-Row, London, for whom it is Printed; but it may be had also of most Booksellers and news carries in England.

Of whom may be likewise had, the following Books; but the Public are intreated to observe, that, unless the name of J. COOKE is at the bottom of their title pages, they are spurious editions, imposed on them by a set of literary pirates, who live by defrauding the fair trader.

II.

THE COMPLETE ENGLISH FARMER;

Or, HUSBANDRY made easy,

In all their various Branches,

Containing a greater Variety of useful Articles
than are to be found in any Book of the Kind,

though Four Times the Price ; particularly, the Management and Qualities of the different Kind of Grass, and of making Hay.

Description of different Soils, and of manuring and ploughing Land.

The Cultivation and Management of Wheat and Barley, &c. &c.

Together with great Variety of other very useful Articles, too numerous to be inserted in this Advertisement.

By GEORGE COOKE, Farmer, at West-End, in Hertfordshire,

Adorned with a beautiful Frontispiece, finely engraved, from an original Drawing. Price 1s. 6d.

The Whole freed from the Errors, Obscurities and Superfluities of former Writers on the Subject.

III.

A handsome Pocket Volume, Price Two Shillings in marble Covers.

The Complete ENGLISH Brewer;

Or the whole Art and Mystery of BREWING,
In all its various BRANCHES :

Containing plain and easy directions for brewing ALL sorts of malt liquors in the *greatest* Perfection, from the smallest to the largest quantities.

Also instructions for the choice of *barley* and *hops*, and all other ingredients and utensils used in brewing. Together with the very best methods of *casking*, *cellaring*, *fining*, *bottling*, *curing* and *recovering faulty or damaged Liquors*.

The whole made easy to every capacity, and calculated not only for the use of Publicans in general, but private Families in particular.

By GEORGE WATKINS.

Who has practised BREWING in all its BRANCHES upwards of Thirty Years.

IV.

The Servants Book of Knowledge,

Containing *Tables of Wages*, ready cast up, for any Number of Pounds, or Guineas, they may have to receive for odd Days, Weeks or Months, up to a Year; which will explain to Servants what they may have to receive for odd Days, Weeks, Months, or Years; nicely calculated to the Hundredth Part of a Farthing.—Together with a *Table*, for *Marketing*, from One Penny and upwards per Pound.—Likewise *Tables*, shewing the even Parts of Pounds, Shillings and Pence, from One Penny to a Thousand Pounds. The whole made perfectly easy to every Capacity.

By ANTHONY HEASEL.

To which are added plain and easy Instructions for Servants of both Sexes, to qualify themselves for places in general, in order to obtain the Favour of their Masters and Mistresses in the Discharge of their several Stations; but more particularly for the *Valet de Chambre*, *Shopman*, *Apprentice*, *Gardener*, *Footman*, *Farmer's Man*, *Groom*, *Housekeeper*, *Lady's Maid*, *House Maid*, *Chamber Maid*, *Cook Maid*, *Dairy Maid*, *Laundry Maid*, *Nursery Maid*, *Scullery Maid*, &c.—Including several curious Articles for the Use of Servants in general, never before published—Price sewed in blue Covers. 1s. 6d.

V.

Price one Shilling, adorned with a curious Frontispiece of all the most favourite singing Birds.

The Complete BIRD-FANCYER;

Or, BIRD-FANCYER'S Recreation.

Containing the best instructions for Taking, Breeding, Feeding, and Rearing, all Sorts of

Song-Birds, particularly Canary-Birds, Nightingales, Larks Black-Birds, Starlings, Thrushes, Linnets, Gold-finches, Bullfinches, &c. Together with an account of all their Distempers, and the best Methods of curing them. Also the surest Means of distinguishing the Cock from the Hen, and learning them to Sing, to the greatest perfection.

By GEORGE WRIGHT, who has made the rearing Birds his diversion near twenty-years. The Lovers of Harmony reading this Book.

May the Moments of Pleasure prolong,
For here we are taught by the Feather and Lock,
To judge of the Bird and his Song.

VI.

A Treatise on English Shooting, Under the following Heads.

Of the Knowledge of a good Fowling-piece. The Ordering and Managing of the Fowling-piece. The Appendages of the Fowling-piece, The choice of Powder, Shot and Flints; or Partridge Shooting, with the Choice and Ordering of Pointers; of Pheasant Shooting, with the Ordering of Spaniels: of Woodcock shooting; of Snipe shooting; of Water and Fen Fowl Shooting, and the Use of proper Dogs. Of Upland Winter Shooting; with necessary Observations for the young Sportsman when out, and returning Home.

By GEORGE EDIE, Gent.

In Demy Octavo, Price 1s. 6d.

VII.

The NEW LONDON SPY; Or, A Twenty-Four Hours Ramble through the BILLS of MORTALITY.

Containing a true Picture of Modern high and low Life; from the splendid Mansions in St.

James's, to the subterraneous Habitations of St. Giles's, &c. Wherein are displayed the various Scences of Covent-Garden and its Environs, the Theatres, Jelly-Houses, Gaming Houses, Night-Houses, Coteries, Masquerades, Public Gardens, and other Places of Entertainment, as well as of civil Reception, public and private. Together with the various Humours of the different Inhabitants of the Metropolis, &c. &c. The whole exhibiting a striking Portrait of London, as it appears in the present Year; and interspersed with Moral Reflections.

By the Author of the CHEATS of LONDON.

Adorned with a humorous Frontispiece, finely engraved by a capital Artist. Price, sewed in Marble Covers. 2s.

VIII.

In a handsome pocket volume, (Price 2s. 6d. sewed. or 3s. neatly bound) adorned with a curious frontispiece, from an original painting, representing the Four great Dangers.

The Companion for the FIRE-SIDE : Or Winter Evening's AMUSEMENT.

Being a valuable and curious Collection of amusing and instructive *stories, tales, fables, allegories, historical facts, eastern tales, novels, remarkable events, and singular occurrences.*

Selected from the most celebrated writers in several languages, many of which never appeared in print before.

To pass the dull evening in pleasure away,
And laugh at the cares of mankind ;
Accept of a chearful companion to day,
To mirth and amusement inclin'd.

The contents of our volume will amply repay
The expence that the purchase has cost ;
And none but a blockhead will seriously say,
That his time or his money was lost.

An entire Original Work.

The Universal LETTER-WRITER ;
Or, New Art of Polite Correspondence.

Containing a Course of Interesting Original Letters on the most important, instructive, and entertaining Subjects, which may serve as Copies for inditing Letters on every various Occurrence in Life. Particularly on Advice, Affection, Business, Children to Parents, Condolence, Courtship, Diligence, Education, Fidelity, Friendship, Generosity, Happiness, Humanity, Industry, Love, Marriage, Masters to Servants, Modesty, Morality, OEconomy, Parents to Children, Paternal Affection, Piety, Prodigality, Prudence, Religion, Retirement, Servants to Masters, Trade, Virtue, Wit, &c. &c. To which is added,

The COMPLETE PETITIONER,

Containing great Variety of Petitions on various Subjects, from Persons in low or middling States of Life, to those in higher Stations ; suited to all the different Occasions in Life.—Also a new, plain and easy *Grammar* of the English Language ; and Directions for addressing Persons of all Ranks, either in Writing or Discourse.—Likewise Forms of Letters of Licence, Bonds, Indentures, Wills, Wills and Powers, Letters of Attorney, &c. as they are now executed by Gentleman of distinguished Abilities in the Law. By the Rev. THOMAS COOKE, A. B.

And one of the Authors of the New Royal Universal Dictionary of Arts and Sciences.

This Work is entirely Original, there not being a single Letter copied from any Book whatever:

Price, neatly bound in Red, and embellished with a beautiful emblematical Frontispiece, finely engraved from an Original Drawing. 2s.

